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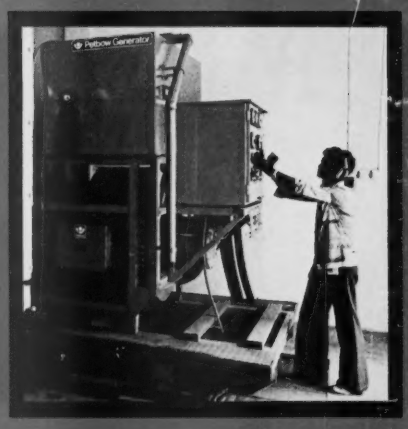

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Trade and Industry

2 March 1979

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

Britain's exports to the six countries of eastern Arabia have reached about £2 billion a year. Facts on trade with the six countries (pages 435) are followed by a market report on Kuwait (page 438).

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Trade and Industry this week

Master plan to combat oil-pollution

Details of a new master plan for combating pollution at sea, which has been approved by the government, were published on Wednesday. The plan will nearly double annual expenditure on anti-pollution effort. Government will also press strongly for an increase in compensation for oil-pollution damage.

Recommendations and proposals for improved arrangements are contained in four Department of Trade reports on marine pollution. They form part of the follow-up action to the government's review, after the *Amoco Casiz* disaster, of contingency plans for dealing with a major oil spillage. Four topics are covered – command, control and communications; resources and R & D; salvage; and liability and compensation for marine oil-pollution damage.

Announcing the publication of the reports trade secretary John Smith told parliament on 23 February that the government had accepted the proposals in these documents. The capital costs in 1979-80 would be some £1½ million with recurrent costs of about £½ million, apart from additional staff which might be needed by the department's marine pollution control unit. This was being financed by a re-ordering of priorities within his department's overall expenditure.

These developments would represent a considerable improvement in preparedness to deal with pollution emergencies, without the great expense of maintaining dedicated vessels which would rarely be used.

The reports are available free of charge from the Marine Library, Sunley House, 90 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LP. A summary of the reports will be published in next week's *Trade and Industry*.

Scheme to nurture small businesses

An experimental scheme to help promising small business in the north west region to grow was launched on Tuesday. Two companies have already joined the scheme and eight more are being sought.

The scheme was announced by the north west board of the National Enterprise Board and Collinson Grant Associates, a Manchester based firm of management consultants. They are to form a joint company, Sapling Enterprise Ltd, owned equally by the two organisations.

The new company will provide guidance and advice to help selected small companies with major growth potential to cope with the problems associated with rapid growth.

The Sapling scheme will be operated on an experimental basis in the north west region initially. During this stage it will be limited to 10 companies. The NEB has agreed to make available as a long-term investment at least £50,000 for each company.

The first companies to join the scheme are Rigby Electronics Ltd, a specialist in industrial electronics based at Swinton near Manchester, and James Howarth (Holdings) Ltd, a company specialising in advanced air engineering based at Farnworth, near Bolton.

Lever opens Milton Keynes small business centre

Harold Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, opened Milton Keynes' first small business centre at Kiln Farm on Tuesday.

The centre represents the beginning of a scheme by the Milton Keynes Development Corporation to help local small firms. It was launched last September to provide a commercially tailored package which aims to ease the initial financial burdens of setting up and running a business. Over 150 detailed inquiries have been received for 11 workshop units at the Kiln Farm centre. First tenants, all in the field of modern technology, moved into the units last November.

Mr Lever said that the government was doing all it could to reduce the burden small firms faced in setting up or expanding a business. The Milton Keynes initiative was valuable because it helped to meet the known demand for suitable premises.

Consumer will benefit from 'head on beer' law – Fraser

The government intends the consumer to benefit under the Weights and Measures Bill by retaining the 'head' on beer and at the same time getting a full pint.

Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection John Fraser said on Tuesday that the Weights and Measures Bill, which made it clear that only the liquid plus the liquid content of the head would be taken into account when ascertaining the quantity of beer or cider in a glass, would ensure that the beer consumer gets full value for money.

Mr Fraser explained that the effect of a Scottish court decision in 1977, which ruled that the foam on the top of the liquid in a glass of beer was to be included in the measure,

Duke welcomes Japanese mission

Lively conversation between the Duke of Kent (left), vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, and Mr T. Matsuo leader of the Japanese mission at a reception held on Monday to welcome the mission to the UK. More on the mission is on page 429.

meant that today's beer drinker was virtually without protection against short measure.

'In practice, it is difficult to serve a full pint of modern keg beer in brim measure glasses because of the head which is formed. This difficulty can be overcome if the slightly larger line-measure glasses are used. The bill allows for a date to be set when only line-measure glasses can legally be used although they are already quite common.'

Mr Fraser said that the government proposed to agree a reasonable transition period with brewers, glass manufacturers and the licensed trade, and as a first step – which could be in about a year from now – to authorise the production of line-measure glasses only.

A second step, he went on, would be to allow a further reasonable period – again probably about a year – before the use of brim-measure glasses would be made illegal.

The government recognised that draught Guinness was a special problem. A 1964 decision allowed the head to be included in the measure and consequently this practice was now well established. Guinness would therefore be exempted from the requirement to serve a 'full' pint until such time as only line-measure glasses were allowed.

Mr Fraser said that the bill merely restored the position to where most people thought it was before the Scottish court decision, when enforcement was always based on the belief that a 'pint' meant a pint of liquid.

Duty relief on sport promotion goods ends in April

Arrangements for relief from customs duties on articles imported for non-commercial use in the promotion of sport, operated in the UK outside the scope of the Unesco (Florence) agreement, will be discontinued from 1 April. The move is in line with this country's EEC obligations.

Applications for relief on articles ordered on or before 30 March will be considered under present arrangements, providing that applications on form DFA 3 are received by the Department of Trade's duty remission branch by 1 April. Applications will also be considered if the branch is informed before that date and the written application is received by 12 April.

Inquiries may be addressed to Duty Remission Branch, Department of Trade, Sanctuary Buildings, 16/20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB, tel. 01-215 5968 or 01-215 5976.

Employee participation key to industrial efficiency – Walker

Increased employee participation holds out the prospect of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of British industry, employment minister Harold Walker told the german employer's association, Gesamtmetall, in Bremen, on Tuesday. It provided the necessary bed-rock of co-operation and understanding between employee and employer. 'It must form an integral part of our strategy for industrial regeneration,' he said.

'If we are to meet the challenge of technological change and achieve industrial regeneration, then we must create a framework for co-operation and mutual understanding within each company,' Mr Walker went on. This is the intention behind the white paper on industrial democracy published last May.

Turning to economic policy, Mr Walker said that Britain had set targets – for the next few years – in the growth of its gdp and control of inflation which might seem modest to German ears, but which were judged to be realistic and practical for Britain. 'To this end we agree that each year there should be a national assessment of economic prospects by the government and both sides of industry,' he added.

The development of this approach to the annual development of economic policy would, he said, provide useful parameters for bargaining and was also the approach adopted in the Industrial Strategy – a strategy which aimed to achieve significant improvements in all aspects of non-price competitiveness like productivity, design, marketing, delivery dates and after-sales service. This strategy was being developed through the offices of the multipartite National Economic Development Council (NEDC) and was being implemented industry by industry, by sector working parties and committees under the general NEDC umbrella.

OVERSEAS

6 per cent increase in exports forecast – Smith

Sluggish growth expected in world trade need not mean a slow growth in UK exports. Secretary of State for Trade John Smith told Gasgow businessmen on Monday that in 1977, UK manufactured exports – aided by the UK's improved competitive position following the depreciation of sterling during 1976 – leapt ahead at twice the equivalent rate of growth in world exports.

'Current forecasts suggest that the volume of our manufactured exports will increase by a healthy 6 per cent in 1979,' Mr Smith said.

Mr Smith explained that continued success in exporting was crucial both to job security and prospects and to the national economy. Judging by Scotland's recent export performance and relatively improved economic situation, that message had got through, he added.

Independent estimates suggested that manufactured exports from Scotland were running at over £3½ billion a year, with Scotch whisky exports alone valued at £660 million last year. Two recent publications seemed to confirm a fairly healthy trend in Scottish exports, he said.

The survey carried out among Scottish manufacturers by the Scottish Council Research Institute suggested that over the period 1974 to 1977, annual manufactured exports from Scotland had more than doubled in value and increased nearly a quarter in volume – a jump no doubt partly influenced by the spin-off from the North Sea oil development. It also reflected a welcome increase in diversification within Scotland's industrial structure, Mr Smith added.

In a second survey, on Scotland's top 500 companies, the leading 20, in terms of exports measured against turnover, came out as Britain's top exporters, with foreign-owned companies in Scotland coming particularly well out of this comparison.

Export successes again at risk – Catherwood

All Britain's hard-won export achievements are again at risk, says British Overseas Trade Board chairman Sir Frederick Catherwood in the foreword to the board's 1978 report, published on Wednesday.

The first and most obvious risk, he says, comes from the renewed pressure on costs.

'During the past year, British costs have been competitive, even though margins have come under pressure in north America with the decline in the United States and Canadian dollar. But with some of our main competitors keeping their increase in wage costs under 5 per cent, we cannot afford to get too far out of line,' Sir Frederick states.

The marked improvement during the past four years in Britain's reputation for delivery is highlighted by Sir Frederick. He warns that this too will be at risk 'unless we work most strenuously to show our overseas customers that reliable deliveries will be maintained'.

Copies of the report are available from the Publicity Unit, British Overseas Trade Board, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5492 and more details of BOTB's 1978 activities will appear in *Trade and Industry* later.

Queen opens £232m Dubai dry dock

The £232 million Dubai dry dock and ship repair facility, built by the Costain Taylor Woodrow joint venture, was opened by the Queen on Monday.

The project, which began in 1973, is one of Britain's most valuable engineering exports. The workshops contain millions of pounds worth of UK-built machine tools. Costain International, and Taylor Woodrow International with the consulting engineers to the Dry Dock Company, Sir William Halcrow and Partners, have built and equipped what is said to be the best and most comprehensive dry docking and ship repair facilities in the world.

An article on trade with eastern Arabia (page 435) is followed by a market report on Kuwait.

Chairmen and Managing Directors

The following executives are seeking to further their careers within fields where proven experience counts and is rewarded accordingly

FINANCE

1. **Accountant.** Part ACA. A most likeable and well presented Audit Senior with 8 years professional experience, now wishes to increase his responsibility in industry. **Age 28 Salary £7,000**

2. **Accountant.** BA(Econ), AIB, part ACMA. With substantial experience of financial services, O & M, investigations and general administration in large manufacturing group. Seeking career move. **Age 31 Salary £8,000**

3. **Project Accountant.** ACMA. With sound manufacturing experience in the electrical assembly and petrochem industries. Has strong experience of computerised systems and cost controls. Now seeking career progression. **Age 45 Salary £7,500+**

4. **Financial Controller.** FCCA. A very sound and experienced financial manager of medium sized industrial group. A good knowledge of computer based systems. Seeking a long term career move. **Age 37 Salary £8,000+**

5. **Finance Director/Co. Sec.** BSc (Chem), ACMA. An able industrial financial manager with strong analytical and commercial experience in the engineering and packaging industries. **Age 36 Salary c. £10,000**

6. **Corporate Planner/PA.** BA Economics and statistics. An intelligent and well presented 'think tank' specialist in f.m.c.g. products (TO £80m). Seeking a long term career development move. **Age 36 Salary c. £10,000**

7. **Admin Manager Company Secretary.** ACIS. Intelligent, active and well presented with successful large company experience in manufacturing, and financial services in the city **Age 48 Salary £8,500**

8. **Finance Director.** CA. A strong financial manager with substantial sales experience of large scale wholesale and retail operations including new site negotiations and new product launches. **Age 33 Salary £12,000+**

9. **Finance Controller.** FSCA With strong financial/commercial experience in large international fast moving consumer products and franchise management group **Age 33 Salary £15,000+**

10. **Finance Director.** An experienced F/D with some successful G/M experience including the 'turn round' of a large group in the leisure, sports goods and cash and carry industries. **Age 48 Salary £10,000+**

11. **International Banker.** BSc(Econ), AIB. Good French. His impressive career includes stock and merchant banking both in the UK and the highest levels in the Middle East. **Age 42 Salary £20,000+**

12. **Senior Finance and Banking Director.** BA(Oxon), ACA. A most impressive track record in international commerce and merchant banking with top level personnel management responsibilities. **Age 37 Salary £26,000**

MARKETING

13. **Export/Import executive.** Fluent French, some Chinese, with sound experience in food manufactured products, seeking wider career opportunity. **Age 30 Salary £6,000**

14. **Sales Engineer.** BA Eng (Civil and Mech.). A successful sales engineer who has also been highly successful in industrial insurance internationally. He wishes to return to line management sales and marketing operating from a London base. **Age 29 Salary £11,500**

15. **Marketing Manager.** B Metallurgy, MA Mktg, good French. Has experience of a wide range of products and services (machine tools, banking, retail and f.m.c.g.) sold internationally but especially to Eastern Europe. Wishes to return to sales management. **Age 30 Salary c. £12,000**

16. **Sales Manager.** BSc Hons. A successful manager who has been closely associated with textile products, advertising and promotions within the EEC. A natural salesman and a good administrator seeking a wider career move. **Age 31 Salary £7,500**

17. **Marketing Director.** BA (Cantab), fluent French and German, MBA. His very sound experience covers market planning and analysis, textiles, P.R. advertising and office equipment. Highly numerate. Excellent personality. Seeking greater responsibility. **Age 33 Salary £9,000+**

18. **Marketing Manager.** MB 1st Class, FERFA. Good French. With wide experience of selling waxes, resins, adhesives, construction and shipping chemicals. Also some product experience. Promotion blockage. **Age 39 Salary £10,000**

19. **Export Manager.** BA (Cantab) Hons, fluent French, good German, some Chinese. A successful sales career in computers and high pressure engineering products. His wide international experience includes China. **Age 33 Salary £12,000**

20. **Marketing Manager.** LLB, fluent French, Italian, Spanish. Impressive career with major international group and strong sales experience in all forms of food products. Seeking greater responsibility probably in a smaller company. **Age 40 Salary £7,500**

21. **Export Sales Manager.** Fluent French, Italian, Arabic, Greek. A very successful sales record in office equipment and a wide range of fast moving consumer products. A particularly good knowledge of the Middle East and European markets. **Age 38 Salary £13,000+**

22. **Marketing Director.** MA. Fluent French and Spanish and the Scandanavian languages. An exceptionally able and successful executive particularly in fashion, furniture, textiles, clothing and leather products. Has managed a substantial European sales force with entrepreneural skill. **Age 42 Salary c. £15,000**

23. **Commercial Director.** Good French. Swiss 'C' Permit. Impressive career with major international groups in automotive, aerospace and electronic products. Wishes to make a move as a result of company re-organisation. **Age 55 Salary neg. c. £15,000**

24. **General Manager.** ACMA, ACIS, fluent Serbo Croat and German, good French. An M/D with a particularly strong sales and marketing background in fmcg, especially in Germanic and Eastern Europe. Seeking greater responsibility. **Age 46 Salary c. £20,000**

GENERAL MANAGEMENT

25. **Promising Executive.** BSc (Hons) Mech Eng, MICE, MIMechE, MBA. Fluent French, good Portuguese with 5 years project engineering experience in Europe and Africa. He now wishes to develop his career with large international investment group. **Age 27 Salary c. £12,000**

26. **Agriculture Executive.** BSc Agriculture (Hons), MBA, good French and German. A particularly able executive with both sound practical farming experience (arable and stock) and Head Office agriconomist experience. Seeking further career development. **Age 29 Salary c. £10,000**

27. **Managing Director.** MA(Oxon). A highly successful young entrepreneur who has developed and expanded a family shop-fitting/Property Development business dramatically. A highflier who now wishes to develop his own career in a large organisation. **Age 29 Salary £10,000**

28. **Construction/Design Engineer.** BSc Civil Eng, M Inst GE. Trilingual English, French and Chinese. Some Arabic with heavy industrial and mining experience in UK, USA and Africa. Wishes to become involved in a major building project, location very flexible **Age 30 Salary £11,000**

29. **Personnel Manager.** BA(Hons), MIPM. Good French. An impressive Executive with a wide range of interests. Considerable large international group experience with particular responsibility for industrial relations, security and health care. Seeking greater responsibility. **Age 31 Salary c. £15,000**

30. **General Manager.** Fluent French, good Arabic. A successful young entrepreneur with wide range of experience in the trading, banking, insurance and petrochem industries and a good knowledge of the Middle East. **Age 31 Salary c. £12,000**

31. **Managing Director.** LLB 1st class Hons. Good French, MBA. A highly intelligent and successful M/D with strong international experience in international plastics, agriculture and transport. Excellent profit record. Seeking greater responsibility. **Age 32 Salary c. £15,000**

32. **General Manager.** Bsc Chem (Hons), MBA. An efficient M/D with strong international sales management background and knowledge of production, especially in the automotive and distribution industries. Substantial Far East experience. **Age 34 Salary £12,000**

33. **Manufacturing Manager.** MA, BAI (1st Class) C Eng, MI Prod E. A most impressive senior executive with wide range of experience in major industrial groups covering group programmes, systems and workshop planning. Excellent M/D potential **Age 40 Salary £15,000+**

34. **Managing Director.** A tough practical Diesel Engineer with 11 years international experience in major group. Ideally suited to management and training in 3rd World countries. Location entirely flexible. **Age 38 Salary £20,000**

35. **Managing Director.** BA (Cantab) Hons, ACCA. An impressive track record with a major manufacturing group over 13 years. Seeking a career move with greater and wider responsibility. **Age 40 Salary £13,000**

36. **Chairman/Chief Executive** with a most impressive and successful record of Senior management in the large retail group industry, including Chain and Department stores. Seeking a fresh challenge. **Age 50 Salary c. £30,000**

NOTES:
(i) Each one of the above executives has been interviewed by us and we consider them to be amongst the best in their particular line. There are of course others which space precludes.
(ii) If you are interested in an executive of similar characteristics please contact me.
(iii) If you personally feel that you match these standards and might benefit from a new opportunity please contact me in the strictest confidence. We would like to meet you for a brief general discussion to discuss your future. There is absolutely no hidden obligation or registration fee.

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Home news

Cash limits observe government's monetary targets

Government proposes to set and operate cash limits for the year ahead so that they support the observance of the government's monetary targets and a public sector borrowing requirement for 1979-80 in line with the projection in the recent public expenditure white paper (Cmnd 7439 – see *Trade and Industry*, 19 January, page 90). This point was made by Chief Secretary to the Treasury Joel Barnett in reply to a parliamentary question on 23 February.

Mr Barnett said that in respect of prices, the cash limits for both central and local government would provide for price increases as in the industry act forecast published last November. Consistent with the guidelines in the paper 'Winning the battle against inflation' (Cmnd. 7293), it implied a retail price index 8½ per cent higher in the fourth quarter of 1979 than in the fourth quarter of 1978. The government did not intend to increase cash limits to accommodate any higher price increases.

In respect of pay, the cash limits would be set in accordance with the policy stated in Cmnd. 7293, together with the £3.50 underpinning subsequently announced. The government would review each case as settlements were reached. Certain adjustments might be necessary, but for central government expenditure on manpower the general principle would be that a substantial proportion of any excess cost above the provision already made would have to be absorbed within the existing cash limit.

Local authority settlements were covered by the cash limits on rate support grant. It had been agreed that the cash limits should be increased in respect of the government's contribution to the offer made to the manual workers. Whether the government made any further contribution in respect of other settlements would depend on the circumstances of each case, but in no circumstances would the government contribute more than its standard share of local authority current expenditure.

For nationalised industries, the government's policy has that external financing should be contained within the aggregate provision in Cmnd. 7439.

Financial targets for Giro set by government

National Girobank's financial target for 1979-80 to 1981-82 should be to make an average annual return of 13 per cent before interest on its net assets and, additionally, it should aim to earn a further £5 million over the three-year period.

These financial targets were announced by Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry, in reply to a question in the house of commons on 23 February.

Mr Kaufman explained that this aim had been agreed with the Post Office board by the secretary of state and should enable National Girobank to be in a position to make a substantial reduction in its accumulated deficit.

The level of this target, while having regard to the profitability of its present business, took account of National Girobank's aim to offer a wide range of services to the public, subject to it earning an adequate return on new capital. Mr Kaufman added that he considered that this target would provide a sound basis for the future development of National Girobank.

Mr Kaufman explained that on 18 July 1978 the secretary of state had announced that he had agreed with the Post Office Board a financial objective for National Girobank of a return of 12½ per cent on public dividend capital plus retained profits over the period 1 April 1978 to 31 March 1979. This was an extension for a further year of the target which had been agreed for National Girobank for the period 1975-76 to 1977-78 and which Girobank had achieved. He explained that the extension was an interim measure pending the outcome of a review of the target for 1979/80 and subsequent years. Present indications suggested that National Girobank would successfully achieve the interim target for the current financial year.

National Girobank had continued to make sound progress, in the development of its range of services and the size of its business. In April 1978 it had introduced bridging loans, budget accounts, and personal deposit accounts, and now held in total 630 000 accounts with total customer balances of £300 million. In August the secretary of state had announced the provision of an additional £8 million capital for National Girobank to strengthen its capital base in line with this growth in business.

The secretary of state had now completed the review of the target in the light of the development of National Girobank, of the White Paper on Nationalised Industries (Cmnd. 7131) and the introduction of prudential supervision of National Girobank on the lines exercised by the authorities in the banking sector generally.

Budget day announced

The Chancellor of the Exchequer will open his 1979 budget on Tuesday 3 April, it was announced on 22 February.

Receivership 'best prospect' for KME

A receivership offers the best prospect of saving jobs at the Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Company (KME) Alan Williams Minister of State for Industry said in parliament on 22 February.

Replying to a written question, Mr Williams explained that the government had given financial support to KME on four occasions and had set up a working party, at the company's request, the recommendations of which had not been implemented. The government felt unable to support the co-operatives's proposals.

The basis of the cabinet's decision on KME was explained in the commons on the same day by the Prime Minister. He said that it was not merely that a lot of money had been put into the co-operative 'and we would have liked to see it succeed', but that it was the cabinet's view that to put it into receivership was more likely to preserve the jobs of those concerned, with the commercial interests that were interested in it, than to continue putting money in on the present basis.

Two inspectors' reports published

Department of Trade's inspectors' reports on the affairs of North Devon Railway Co Ltd (North Devon) and Words in Action Ltd were published on 22 February. Both reports are to be published in one volume.

A limited number of copies is available (cash with order) from the Department of Trade Library, Room LG37, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, price £2 post free. Cheques should be made payable to 'Department of Trade'. Copies of the report may be inspected at the Department of Trade library by appointment.

Urenco expansion agreed

British, Dutch and German governments have agreed that the Anglo-Dutch-German consortium Urenco may more than double capacity

Interim code for nationalised industries' accounts

An interim code of practice for accountancy in the nationalised industries was announced by Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Joel Barnett, in the house of commons on 22 February.

Describing the code as a 'modest but useful step forward' Mr Barnett explained that it should mean that industries would in future show either in their main accounts or supplementary statements the current cost adjustments needed to arrive at current cost operating profit, which would also be shown.

When an accounting standard covering the treatment of inflation in company accounts is approved for general use, public sector corporations intend to comply with it, subject to any necessary adjustment to meet their special circumstances. At best, however, it will be more than a year before an approved standard will be available.

Over recent months, the nationalised industries' chairmen's group has been considering whether the public-sector corporations could usefully take some interim steps. Its finance panel produced technical proposals to this end which were subsequently discussed with government officials and the chairman of the accounting standards committee, and amended in certain respects as a result.

The chairmen's group has now approved these proposals as an interim code of practice. As well as inflation issues, this covers other matters affecting the accounts which were referred to in the white paper on the nationalised industries (Cmnd. 71731).

Decisions on the form of accounts of particular corporations remain the responsibility of their individual boards. However, it is hoped that corporations will follow the interim code of practice, subject to any delays or variations which may be necessary on grounds of practicality, and to the views of their auditors, etc.

The code

☐ The code is addressed to those boards and corporations whose chairmen are members of the nationalised industries' chairmen's group. All these bodies should conform at the earliest opportunity with any accounting standard relating to current cost accounting which the accounting standards committee may issue, and subject to any necessary adjustments to meet their special circumstances.

☐ The general format of their accounts should be based on the principle that accounts and their notes should identify performance against the form of financial target set for each body concerned.

☐ Since the agreed accounting standard will not be available in time to affect the 1978/79 accounts, and many of the bodies concerned may not have financial targets relating to that year, the following general points should be observed in published accounts for that year (or, where relevant and possible, the year ending 31 December 1978).

☐ Those bodies which are including current cost adjustments for depreciation and cost of sales in their main revenue account should continue to do so.

☐ Others should publish a supplementary revenue statement with their accounts for the current financial year, incorporating current cost accounting adjustments where material and in accordance with the interim guidelines of the Accounting Standards Committee. This statement, insofar as the 'gearing' adjustment is concerned, should be consistent with the form of financial target set for each body concerned.

☐ Where a supplementary statement is published, the main accounts should be on the same basis as hitherto – subject to such changes as are needed in the normal course of business. The object here is to maintain continuity where changes from the present accounting practice are an essential accompaniment to a change to current cost accounting.

☐ All the bodies concerned should thus show in their accounts, or in a supplementary statement, a figure for current cost operating profit, which should be labelled as such. Current cost operating profit for this purpose means profit after current cost adjustments for depreciation and cost of sales (if material) but before interest, taxation, extraordinary items and minority interests. The accounts or supplementary statements should also show the amount of current cost retained profit after deducting these items.

☐ Those bodies not now including an adjustment for supplementary depreciation should not adopt the 40 per cent rule as a first step towards making full current cost adjustments. Those bodies now using the '40 per cent rule' for the purpose of their main accounts should move to full current cost adjustments as soon as possible, subject to paragraphs one and two, and in the meantime should include a supplementary statement in the accounts showing the full current cost adjustments.

☐ Those bodies making current cost depreciation adjustments should use realistic asset lives so as to avoid the risk of double counting by retaining conservative asset lives adopted for use in historical cost accounts.

☐ Backlog depreciation should not be charged in the profit and loss account.

☐ Balance sheets should continue to be published on the present basis, pending and subject to emergence of an accounting standard. When a financial target is set in terms of a return on revalued net assets, the accounts should include a note reconciling net assets at historical cost and current cost.

at its plants at Capenhurst in Cheshire and Almelo in the Netherlands.

These plants process uranium for use by UK and overseas electricity supply industries in nuclear power stations. The new capacity is needed to fulfil the company's contracts.

The three governments have also agreed to the creation of a new company Urenco (Deutschland) which, subject to planning permission, intends in due course to build a plant at Gronau in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The governments' approval was announced on 13 February by Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, in reply to a parliamentary question. He explained that the three governments had recently agreed to the build up of capacity at the Urenco plant at Almelo in the Netherlands to 600 tonnes per annum and at Capenhurst to 400 tonnes per annum.

The three governments will be consulted before work on an enrichment plant at Gronau begins, and on any subsequent extension of capacity at Urenco plants. The three governments will continue discussions with a view to their conclusion in 1979, on the formal extension of their collaboration until at least 1991.

Official appointments

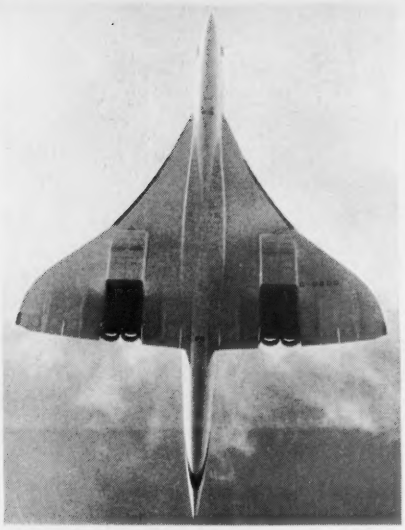
Design Council. Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has appointed new members Mr R. J. Maskrey, managing director, Maskreys, Mr M. J. Kimberley, managing director Lotus Cars, Mr G. N. Bowman-Shaw, chairman, Lancer Boss, Mr G. Downie, general manager, Radstock Reproductions, and Mr G. Eastwood, general secretary, Association of Patternmakers and Allied Craftsmen, to the Design Council.

Gas Consumers' Council. Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Councillor Mrs E. M. Heath as a member of the North Thames Gas Consumers' Council until 30 April 1981.

Leasing industry handles £1.2bn of new business

Britain's leasing industry set new records in 1978. Expenditure by member companies of the Equipment Leasing Association on assets for lease to customers amounted to £1,214 million, an increase of 80 per cent on the £675 million of new business handled in 1977. Association chairman Tom Clark said that leasing now accounted for some 9 per cent of all capital investment in plant and equipment in the UK, compared with 5.5 per cent in 1977.

An analysis of leasing transactions completed in 1978 showed that all sectors of the industry continued to grow. Principal activity was the leasing of industrial plant, machinery and equipment which amounted to £490 million, or 40 per cent of the total. Biggest growth area was motor cars, where the total value of vehicles purchased for lease was up from £57 million in 1977 to £343 million last year.



BA to write off Concorde purchasing costs

British Airways is to be allowed to write off the cost of purchasing its existing Concorde aircraft and spares. In future, 80 per cent of surpluses earned on Concorde operations will be passed to the government with British Airways retaining 20 per cent as an incentive to economic operations.

In reply to a parliamentary question on 22 February, John Smith, Secretary of State for Trade, said that the government had accepted the recommendation of a review group that British Airways' Concorde aircraft and spares should be entered in their accounts as a fully depreciated asset and that a corresponding amount of public dividend capital, amounting to £160 million, should be cancelled.

Mr Smith explained that in the three years since the introduction of Concorde services, in spite of difficulties in developing particular routes, the government felt that sufficient experience of operating Concorde had been obtained to justify a review of British Airways' financial position. This review had been carried out by a group on which the departments concerned and the airline were represented.

Mr Smith pointed out that Concorde was now earning a positive cash flow for British Airways. It was hoped that over the remaining lifetime of the aircraft, the surpluses, after meeting operating costs, would be substantial. However the report indicated that, whatever might be the situation in the longer term, these surpluses would be insufficient for the foreseeable future to cover amortisation of the aircraft and its spares, in accordance with the airline's normal accounting criteria. They would likewise be insufficient to pay an appropriate dividend on public dividend capital.

British Airways would continue to use its commercial judgment to seek to achieve a financial surplus on Concorde operations consistent with the maintenance of a reasonable level of utilisation and the exploitation of a balanced route pattern.

These arrangements would take effect at the end of the airline's current financial year on 31 March. British Airways would now pay an interim dividend to make up for reduced dividends paid in earlier years to 31 March 1978. For 1978–79, and subsequently, British Airways would pay dividends on the remainder of its holding of public dividend capital in accordance with the white paper on nationalised industries (Cmnd. 7131).

Mr Smith went on to explain that the write-off of public dividend capital would require legislation and a bill to this effect would be introduced in due course. Until this could be done, transitional accounting arrangements would be made by British Airways.

This decision would assist the British Airways board to maintain a sound financial position. At the same time it would secure the best long-term exploitation of the nation's investment in Concorde.

Plans submitted for second Gatwick terminal

British Airports Authority submitted its planning application for a second passenger terminal at Gatwick airport to Crawley borough council on 28 February.

Environment minister Peter Shore has already announced that the plans for the second terminal will be 'called-in', which will lead to a public inquiry, possibly in the autumn. About three months before the inquiry, the BAA will publish a 'statement of case' to explain in detail the need for the second terminal and other developments, with a full assessment of their impact on the surrounding districts in terms of employment, housing, surface traffic, noise and other issues.

The planning application follows government policy, announced in February 1978, that the BAA should bring forward its plan for the development. This will eventually increase Gatwick's annual passenger-handling capacity from its current 16 million to 25 million.

BAA expects the airport to reach the limits of its present capacity by the mid-1980s. The second terminal, if approved, will be available by 1985. But because growth will be limited by the single runway, the full capacity of the two terminals will not be reached before 1990, when a signficant number of large-capacity aircraft will be in service.

Simultaneously, the BAA is seeking planning consent to widen the existing northern taxiway, which runs close to and parallel to the runway, to act as an emergency runway if the main one were to become accidentally blocked for a signficant length of time. The runway would have visual aids, but no instrument control, and it would not be possible, therefore, to operate it simultaneously with the main runway because of insufficient safety clearance.

The authority still has to decide, although applying for planning consent, if the considerable financial outlay involved in providing an emergencies-only runway would be justified in view of the minimal use it would get.

The BAA reaffirmed that it has no intention of building a second runway at Gatwick to expand capacity still further.

It is proposed to locate the second terminal to the north-west of the existing terminal development within the present airport boundary. The development will comprise the passenger terminal itself, about 20 aircraft stands capable of accommodating 'stretched' B747 aircraft, taxiways, roads and car parks. The proposals also include a tracked transit system to link the second terminal with the existing and the new Gatwick airport British Rail station now under construction. Extensive landscaping will be a fundamental part of the scheme.

Team to advise on Thames barrier progress

A proposal to set up an expert team to advise on ways to maintain progress with the Thames barrier has been announced by John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Following a meeting with union leaders representing the site at Silvertown, the minister said that he was anxious to secure the earliest possible completion of the barrier. The recent agreement between the GLC and the civil engineering consortium offered a good prospect of bringing the barrier into operation by December 1982 but he wanted to be assured that all possible steps were being taken to meet this target. He had therefore agreed with the leader of the council that a small, independent team should be appointed to advise on ways in which progress could be maintained and improved.

The members of the team are Mr E. U. Broadbent – until his recent retirement a director of John Laing and Son, Mr H. A. Ray – at present national secretary of the Food, Drink, Tobacco and Agricultural Group of the Transport and General Workers Union and Mr A. I. Johnstone – a senior engineer with ICI.

Mr Silkin said that there was no question of the team interfering with existing arrangements for consultation and conciliation between management and the unions. Its task would be to examine carefully all aspects of the work, and, where it could see scope for improvements, to discuss these with the parties concerned.

He added, 'On a complex engineering project of this kind it would be foolish to expect any magic solutions to the various problems which tend to hold up progress but I am sure that the team will be able to make a useful contribution to ensuring that the barrier is completed at maximum speed and reasonable cost.'

The team is expected to begin work early in March and will aim to make a preliminary report on its work during the early summer.

Newspaper merger referred to commission

Transfer proposals of newspapers owned by Surrey Advertiser Newspaper Holdings Ltd to The Guardian and Manchester Evening News Ltd have been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission by Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. The proposed transfers arise from an agreement for the purchase by The Guardian and Manchester Evening News Ltd of approximately 85 per cent of the shares in Surrey Advertiser Newspaper Holdings Ltd.

Surrey Advertiser Newspaper Holdings Ltd

is a newspaper group based in Guildford which publishes one evening and a number of weekly newspapers circulating in west Surrey and Hampshire. The main newspapers concerned in the transfer are the Surrey Advertiser, and those newspapers in the Surrey Times series, the Esher News and Mail series, the Woking News and Mail series, the Aldershot News and Mail series, and the Aldershot News series. The secretary of state's written consent to the transfers of these newspapers to the Guardian and Manchester Evening News is required under the Fair Trading Act 1973. Some of the newspapers involved in the present transfers have a circulation of over 25 000, and the secretary of state has accordingly exercised his power to refer all the proposed acquisitions to the commission.

This reference, the eighth concerning a newspaper merger since the Monopolies and Mergers Act came into force in 1965, in no way prejudges the public interest issues of this acquisition; it is for the commission to investigate these and report their findings.

Discussion paper on the private security industry

A discussion paper on the private security industry was published by the government on 22 February.

In recent years, some public concern has been expressed about the growth of the private security industry in the UK. The government's discussion paper provides some background information about the industry and sets out some of the arguments for and against control.

The government has not yet formed a view on the balance of these arguments and thinks that there should be further public discussion and debate before they do so. Publication of the discussion paper ('The private security industry: a discussion paper, HMSO, 80p) is intended to encourage and assist that process.

Price commission reports on portable electric tools

Prices, costs and margins in the manufacture and distribution of portable electric tools are the subject of a Price Commission report carried out under the Price Commission Act 1977, published on 22 February.

Black and Decker dominates the DIY portable electric tool market but its prices are not excessive says the Price Commission in its report.

The report (Price Commission sectoral examination report 13, 'Prices, costs and margins in the manufacture and distribution of portable electric tools', HMSO £1), shows that Black and Decker, subsidiary of a United States company, is by far the largest supplier of DIY portable electric power drills and tools in the UK having 90 per cent of the market.

The shares of other UK manufacturers are small and much of the commission's report relates inevitably to Black and Decker. However, the company now faces potentially strong competition from two importers: Rockwell (United States) and Makita (Japan).

The commission found no evidence that Black and Decker was using its monopoly position to take advantage of the consumer. The prices of its products appeared to be rather lower than those of its competitors.

The commission's general assessment was that Black and Decker was an efficient company with good labour relations. Investment in recent years had produced considerable improvement in cost efficiency, despite the absence of serious competition from other UK manufacturers.

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, is considering the report, and will be consulting interested parties about its findings.

In 20 years, rail's share of passenger travel fell from 18 to 7 per cent.

Dramatic changes in travel patterns

Over the past 20 years there have been dramatic changes in travel according to new figures prepared by the Government Statistical Service. The latest edition shows that travel measured in passenger miles has doubled between 1957 and 1977.

Over these 20 years the proportion of total travel accounted for by cars and motorcycles nearly doubled from 42 per cent to 80 per cent, at the expense of other forms of travel. The share of buses fell from 32 to 11 per cent, rail from 18 to 7 per cent, and pedal cycles from 7 to 1 per cent. Air travel remained a very small part of the total, but its share increased from 0.2 to 0.5 per cent.

'Transport Statistics Great Britain 1967-77', HMSO £5.75, published on 14 February with the latest 1977 figures, contains 190 tables, 46 of them new or more-detailed versions of those in previous editions, and many charts.

The average household spent £9.71 per week on transport in 1977 (13½ per cent of all household expenditure), an increase of 19 per cent on the previous year. Over 80 per cent of household expenditure on transport went towards the expenses of buying and running private motor vehicles. Passenger transport costs increased over-all by 15 per cent in 1977; rail travel costs were up by 18 per cent, and bus and air travel costs were both 13 per cent above those of the previous year. Motor vehicle running costs increased in total by 12½ per cent despite a smaller (6 per cent) increase in petrol and oil costs.

Fifty-seven per cent of all households now have the regular use of a car, and 11 per cent of these have two or more cars. The use of a car by households varies between regions, availability falling as one moves north. For example, 67 per cent of households in the south east (excluding greater London) have the use of a car, but in each of the three northern regions of England the figure falls to 50 per cent, while in Scotland it is only 46 per cent.

The quantity of freight transported in 1977 was 4 per cent lower than in 1976. The shares in goods tonnages moved by rail (9.9 per cent) coastal shipping (2.8 per cent) and pipelines (4.3 per cent) were higher than in 1976; the road's share fell from 84.5 per cent to 82.7 per cent. Coastal tonnage transported by container and roll-on/roll-off services increased by 16 per cent in 1977; the tonnage transported overseas in this way increased by 8 per cent and has more than doubled since 1970.

A new table estimates the quantities of six pollutants emitted by petrol and diesel road vehicles for the last 11 years. Other tables give details of the consumption of motor spirit, and of derv by goods vehicles, each of which increased by 3 per cent in 1977.

Upper and lower forecasts of vehicle numbers and traffic are quoted, mainly in index form. Car traffic is predicted to increase by between 35 and 75 per cent between 1976 and 2000, lorry traffic by 35 to 55 per cent, and light van traffic by 70 to 115 per cent; bus and coach traffic is forecast to fall by over 20 per cent in the same period. Eleven tables give statistical information for EEC member states and of 12 other industrialised countries.

DoT special adviser

Secretary of State for Trade John Smith has appointed Dr Vincent Cable as a special adviser. Dr Cable, age 35, will serve on a part-time basis.

Dr Cable is senior research officer at the Overseas Development Institute. From 1974 to 1975 Dr Cable was in the diplomatic service as a first secretary, Latin American department. More recently he had been a consultant on trade policy to the European commission, the OECD and the World Bank.

WEMBLEY AUCTION SALES 1979

6 MARCH

View Days:	Day preceding and morning of sale
Location:	Department of the Environment Property Services Agency Supplies Stores India Pavilion Exhibition Grounds Wembley, Middx. Tel. 01-903 2508
Description of Goods:	Miscellaneous office equipment and furniture etc. (Potential buyers are advised to refer to the official catalogue available from the auctioneers, price 20p)
Auctioneers:	Messrs Hollingsworth Westcombe House 56/58 Whitcomb Street Leicester Square London WC2H 7DR Tel. 01-893 1875

Government sales

22 March 1979 – Miscellaneous

Location
Golden Lion Hotel, King Street, Stirling

Auctioneers
Dixon and Wallace (Dept L), Bank Buildings, Graham Square, Glasgow G31 1AW (041-554 2447)

Stores lying in Scotland including footwear, greatcoats, jerseys, blankets and other clothing; furniture, mattresses, kitchen and householdware; MT spares; vehicles; plant and machinery including cranes, forklift trucks; ferrous and non-ferrous scrap metal; and many other miscellaneous items.

Sale by tender
Gold sovereigns dated between 1872 and 1931.

Applications for tenders should be sent to Ministry of Defence, Sales Supply 6aiii, St Christopher House, Southwark Street, London SE1 0TD.

Catalogues, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc, are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 40p, postage 15p.

The most densely populated region of Scotland

In Dumfries and Galloway, 20.9% of the land area is woodland. That's 1,330 sq. kilometres and that's a lot of trees. And a lot of opportunity.

But here's the interesting bit. The current rate of timber production is only about 190,000m³ per year. The big timber yield is still to come. By about 1985 it is expected to have risen progressively to 317,000m³. By about 1995 to 480,000m³ and the potential production of the existing forest area, on a sustained yield basis is estimated at 1,200,000m³.

A prodigious tree population to have on your doorstep.

And that's just where it would be if you moved your factory to Dumfries and Galloway.

There could even be the ideal factory ready and waiting for you. The Scottish Development Agency has co-operated with us on a programme of factory units of between 1,500 sq. feet and 10,000 sq. feet. Some of these are still vacant and there are numerous sites available too.

Dumfries and Galloway is a Development Area attracting all the usual grants on buildings and machinery. Industry enjoys a 50% reduction in local rates. Manpower is readily available and firms already located have found our local people to be hardworking, loyal and quick to learn.

A glance at the map will tell you that Dumfries and Galloway is well served for road, rail, sea and air communications and if you have never seen our local beauty spots there is a treat in store for you when you come to visit. So why not do just that and see for yourself why Dumfries and Galloway is ideal for timber and timber related industries. Alan Anderson will be delighted to arrange a visit for you or send you our specially prepared leaflet.

Contact: ALAN ANDERSON,
REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER,
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY REGIONAL COUNCIL,
118 ENGLISH STREET, DUMFRIES DG1 2DE.
Telephone 0387-61769

Dumfries & Galloway Regional Council
Land of opportunity

New publications

Tell me the North Sea story

Three of this week's reviews deal with the North Sea oil and gas industries, and the fourth is on the subject of energy in general.

Technology guide

Since the beginning of the North Sea story in the 1960s there have been misconceptions within the industry and among the public about the gas and oil-producing operations in the area. The Institute of Petroleum maintains that much of this lack of understanding has arisen from a failure of communication. So its annual conference in 1977 was devoted to describing the activities of the oil industry to non-specialists.

Papers delivered at this conference have been published in the form of a comprehensive and up-to-date layman's guide. Written by representatives of leading oil companies, the 19 papers included cover the exploration, production, transport, storage and exploitation of petroleum.

Both environmental and economic factors determining platform characteristics are discussed, with papers on steel and concrete platforms and the processes taking place upon the rigs themselves. Competing methods of transporting the product to shore are described, as are the problems of onshore terminals.

The broader aspects of the industry, the opportunities and implications for British firms and the UK economy generally are also discussed and there is an interesting final chapter examining 'the new era for UK energy'. Both the technical and non-technical reader should find the volume a valuable guide to the complex processes involved in the search for petroleum and its production. In general it has been successful and provides a useful overview with ample illustrations and explanatory diagrams.

A guide to North Sea oil and gas technology, by the Institute of Petroleum. Heyden, 1978. ix, 186 pages; £7.00 (ISBN 0 85501 316 8).

Facts and forecasts

Behind all the much-publicised activity in the North Sea oilfields lies an unending demand for all the facts, figures and forecasts required by any highly competitive business. The national offshore information conference held at Heriot-Watt University in September last year, set out to illustrate ways in which these may be obtained.

The papers presented there, now published, provide details of many aspects of information sources and management in offshore information work. Six major topics were covered by the main speakers who represented commercial, academic and government information services: the current position offshore; the legal aspects of North Sea development; commercial information sources; government activities and publications; technical information; and future offshore research requirements.

The papers present an interesting insight into the different activities of those dealing with specialised types of offshore information, whether technical or commercial. In addition to the main text, there are extensive references and bibliographies, and these, in conjunction with a list of names and addresses of delegates to the conference, make the proceedings an extremely useful sourcebook for information officers, librarians and research workers active in this field.

National offshore information conference papers 1978, edited by Arnold Myers. Institute of Offshore Engineering, Heriot-Watt University, Research Park, Riccarton Currie, Edinburgh EH14 4AS, 1978. 158 pages; ringbound. £6.50 (ISBN 0 904046 05 2).

Towards standardisation of accounting methods

Rapid growth in numbers of companies and people involved in North Sea oil and gas exploration has resulted in wide variations in the types of reporting and accounting practice devoted to it. As yet little has been done to standardise these practices and for those employed in the financial management of the industry a recent guide produced by the Institute of Chartered Accountants should prove most helpful.

These various accounting methods used by the oil companies operating on the UK continental shelf are covered, together with appropriate auditing practices and procedures.

The aim of authors John Norton and Donald Rowe is claimed to be 'descriptive rather than prescriptive', but they indicate quite clearly those practices which they regard as unacceptable.

Given the international nature of the oil industry, the authors strongly support the move towards some kind of standardisation of accounting practices referring to proposals made by the American Financial Accounting Standards Board in December 1977 as a possible answer.

Besides providing a valuable introduction to the financial aspects of oil and gas, the book gives useful background information, including a glossary of common terms used in the oil industry and a short summary of tax legislation relating to oil and gas companies.

Accounting and auditing guide for United Kingdom oil and gas exploration and production, by John C. Norton and Donald A. Rowe. Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, 1978. x, 326 pages; paperback. £14.95 (ISBN 0 85291 206 4).

Energy alphabet

Energy can be a deceptively simple term. Such is the preoccupation with energy topics these days that the single word 'energy' can all too easily be used as a shorthand symbol for the multitude of subjects and concerns which impinge on – or spring from – the basic premise that energy is increasingly expensive and will be more so in the future.

Such usage can cause confusion not only to those who wish to investigate energy-related problems but also to those who try to disseminate useful information on such questions. Useful information there is indeed in a new A to Z on the subject, 'The world energy book'. The encyclopaedic format seems unsuited to the aim of providing clear, concise and, above all, structured information on such a wide ranging field of subjects as are listed in the introduction – 'a guide to energy sources, energy related terminology, economics and all factors related to the search for, extraction of, production and utilisation of, the major and alternative sources of energy'.

The information is certainly there, and for a desk-top work of reference at a not-too-technical level it can be usefully dipped into as required. The statistical appendices, covering aspects of energy production and consumption, are especially useful. There is also an 'energy resource atlas' section which provides, in convenient format, information on resource location and distribution not easily available elsewhere.

The world energy book: an A-Z atlas and statistical source book, by David Crabbe and Richard McBride. Kogan Page, 1978. 259 pages. £12.00 (ISBN 0 85038 081 2).

Energy publications

Available now: the latest edition of the Department of Energy's 'Publications in print; December 1978'.

Copies are obtainable free of charge, from the Department of Energy Library, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ.

Technology news

Project to develop data communication rules

Improving the co-ordination of commonly agreed protocols for user level data communications is the aim of a project sponsored by the Department of Industry's computers, systems and electronics requirements board. A steering committee, chaired by Morley Sage of Southampton University, will establish a policy for the project and co-ordinate development in the protocols, encourage the development of standards, and guide the work of a data communications protocol unit at the department's National Physical Laboratory.

Protocols are the rules and conventions which must be observed if computers are to communicate with one another. They may be likened to the sequence of actions and responses required in the making of a telephone call. With the advent of public data networks conforming to international standards (service level protocols), higher or user level protocols are necessary to enable the transfer of data, programmes and files over a communications network independently of manufacturers' equipment or network characteristics.

The protocol unit will act as a focus for work on the development of data communications protocols. Work already supported by the requirements board will form the nucleus for the co-ordinated activity. It is intended that workers and sponsors involved in the development of user level protocols will co-operate by offering programmes for co-ordination in return for an exchange of information and participation in joint activities.

Advanced system ordered to track channel shipping

A very advanced automatic data processing system for incorporation in an improved English Channel navigation information service (CNIS) has been ordered from Decca Radar Ltd by the Department of Trade. The system is due to be installed and operational by mid-1980 in a new operations centre under construction at Langdon Bay.

A study carried out by the department's operational research unit and Admiralty Surface Weapons Establishment confirmed the need for an automatic data processing system if the new CNIS was to operate efficiently, in view of HM Coastguard's multiple responsibilities.

The system will accept information from many sources including radar data from two remote stations. From this it will continuously track selected ships. Information may also be entered manually or from other automatic services. Facilities are provided for the operators to recall, amend or co-relate this data as required, displaying it either in alpha-numeric form on visual display units or in synthetic graphic form on the area radar plot.

All these and other tasks will be performed by two integrated sub-systems: the autotrack system and the information system, each of which is duplicated for reliability. The autotrack system will automatically track up to 250 ships, acquired either manually or, in a limited area, automatically. Positions, courses and speed of selected targets are computed from immediate past history and either the vectors or the past history or both displayed if desired. Many subsidiary functions, such as the bearing and distance of one ship from another, are made immediately available.

The information system is a data storage and processing system, which, using two mini computers, feeds the main radar displays through the autotrack system, the radar plot display, the visual displays, a paper plotter, a line printer and a magnetic tape unit. Examples of interplay between the two systems are the display of data from an investigating aircraft identifying a 'rogue' ship that has transgressed the traffic separation scheme rules, and the important procedural reporting by certain ships as they move through the scheme. When a ship arrives within radar coverage her details, stored in the information system, are related to her tracks as stored in the autotrack system, enabling her echo to be positively identified.

The radar displays and the autotrack system have been under evaluation at the coastguard station at St Margaret's Bay since 1976. The former are fixed coil displays that provide a very bright picture by means of recycling and restoring the video. The autotracking system is a micro processor system of which the main features are the ability to deal with multiple echo situations and to carry out reliable tracking in clutter conditions.

The CNIS radar system currently consists of a Decca HR 25 (25 ft scanner) at St Margarets Bay and a similar but unmanned radar on the nuclear power station at Dungeness, both feeding into special, very advanced displays at the coastguard station. When the new site at Langdon Bay – some two miles to the west – is completed, the radar scanners will continue in their present position with the data being transmitted by a combination of microwave link and landline.

Watching for the 'rogues' on Decca radar displays in use at St Margarets Bay Coastguard station.

Term of hovercraft patent extended by high court

Hovercraft Development Ltd's hovercraft skirt design patent, 1043351, has had its term extended for a further maximum period of 10 years. The extension was granted in a high court judgement obtained by the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) and HDL.

Commenting on the application Mr Justice Whitford said that it was clear that, but for the belief and endeavour of a devoted band of people, the hovercraft project would not have got off the ground for many years, if at all. The hovercraft was now beginning to make an impact on the economy of the country by developing export markets and therefore conferred exceptional benefits to the public and established a whole new industry. He hoped that with the extension of 10 years the financial investment would be recovered.

NRDC has been involved in the project since its inception in the late 1950s. It estab-

lished a strong patent position, brought in British industry at an early stage to assist the development, provided additional financial assistance for the work and generally co-ordinated the early development programme. It has subsequently licensed the inventions on a worldwide basis.

IGS opens national geochemical data bank

Geochemical information about the British Isles is being made available by the Institute of Geological Sciences in machine-readable form and in a series of regional atlases to be published over the next few years. Projects undertaken by the institute to prepare this information are sponsored by the Department of Industry's chemical and minerals requirements board.

The geochemical information provides systematic data on levels of up to 30 trace elements in stream sediments as a basis for mineral exploration, fundamental studies of crustal evolution and ore farming processes. It is also intended to assist with environmental studies in agriculture, medical geography, pollution and ecology. At the present time this information is available for much of the highlands of Scotland.

All the geochemical, geological and topographical data are held in digital form in a national geochemical data bank operated by the institute. The data bank service includes archiving and management, data retrieval in response to requests, data processing and reformatting, and the supply of the data in digital form.

Maps in the published atlases are plotted from the digital data using automated cartographic methods employed by the experimental cartography unit of the Natural Environment Research Council. Each atlas contains maps for approximately 16 elements. Individual elements are shown on separate maps giving the concentration at each sampling point. Where available, information is included also on occurrences of metalliferous mineralisation, relief, land use and vegetation. The first atlases being published cover Shetland, Orkney, Caithness/South Orkney and Sutherland.

Further information about the national geochemical data bank can be obtained from the Assistant Director, Special Surveys Division, Institute of Geological Sciences, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG, tel. Plumtree 5261. The regional geochemical atlases are available, price £36.50 (post paid) from the institute's bookshop, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DE.

Machine tool research to be shown and demonstrated

Noise, performance testing, guarding, reliability, mechanical and control system design and computer-aided manufacture are some of the items to be displayed and demonstrated at the Machine Tool Industry Research Association's open days on 28 to 30 March at its Macclesfield laboratories.

Mtira is the national research organisation of the British machine tool industry. Its open days enable sections of industry not closely allied to machine tool design to observe progress in the design, development, manufacture and use of machine tools.

Research on nearly 30 investigations will be exhibited and there will be demonstrations throughout each open day. The range of measurement, trouble shooting, design and information and advisory services available to industry will also be on show, and lectures will explain more fully the work of the association.

Attendance is by invitation. Applicants should contact Mtira, Hulley Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 2NE, Tel. Macclesfield 25421.

Iron ore separated without loss by cryogenic magnet

A cryogenic magnet, operating at extremely low temperatures and generating a permanent high magnetic field without using large quantities of electrical power, has been developed at the Royal School of Mines. The unit is being used to develop a new kind of magnetic separator, mainly for iron ore, to eliminate losses occurring with conventional processes.

The magnet, manufactured by Cryogenic Consultants Ltd, is placed in a simple annular chamber and cooled by direct contact with liquid helium in a stainless steel reservoir,

Holding up a sample of the water containing ore particles.

which is in turn surrounded by another chamber. A slurry liquid containing the ore particles is passed through the outer chamber at high speed. The field is strong enough to pull the majority of the iron ore particles to the inside surface of the chamber.

The flow from the bottom of the chamber leaves in two streams, water containing ore particles and water containing the remaining solids which flow into a hopper. Process capacities are expected to be up to 30 tonnes per hour for each unit separator depending on the material and the type of treatment required.

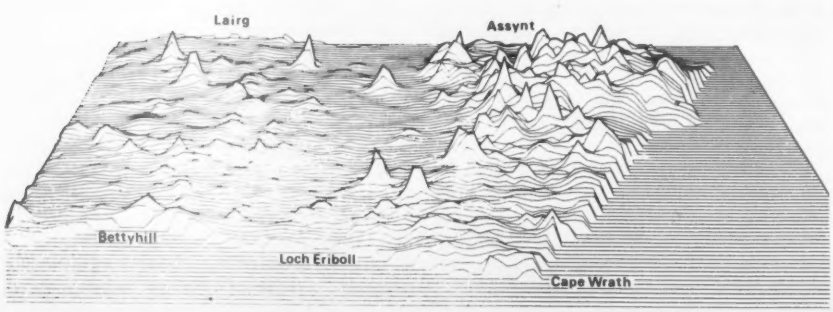
Practical conference on energy conservation

Eucon '79, a conference for the rational use of energy, will be held at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, London from 3 to 5 April. The National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service Ltd is acting as technical adviser for the conference which is being supported by the Department of Energy.

The Eucon '79 programme and the selection of speakers is planned to ensure that it is a practical event. The conference has been arranged into sessions, the first day primarily for executives, while the second and third days will be aimed at middle management and energy managers. It is designed to demonstrate ways and means by which energy costs may be reduced immediately and, more importantly, how plans may be made for future investment programmes. Such programmes are increasingly influenced by aid and legislative policy on a national and international basis. Speakers from the EEC and the Department of Energy will emphasise this.

In a foreword to the programme, Peter Jonas, head of energy conservation at the Department of Energy, says, 'Our main objectives must be improving existing technology so that we can go on improving the ratio between energy input and goods produced or services supplied. The means to do this are largely at hand but they need to be more widely known and certainly more widely practised.'

Geochemical landscape depicting the concentration of chromium in Sutherland, with the highest peak representing 5600 parts per million, constructed by computer from the point source data available from the national geochemical data bank.



New products

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Storage systems meet stringent safety regulations

Super Acrowrack is a new and versatile racking system designed, it is claimed, to meet all of Europe's increasingly stringent health and safety at work regulations by Acrow (Automation) Ltd. It meets every requirement of the Sema code of practice.

At the heart of the system is a unique limpet lock, which ensures rack security up to a full 10 kn uplift before disengaging – twice the Sema requirement. Even after this extreme maltreatment, the post remains structurally sound. Beam connectors are designed and engineered to give rigidity, stability and safety with ease of installation; the heavier the load the greater the locking action.

The system is fully metricated and available in welded or in component form for nut and bolt assembly – the latter offering major savings in transport costs. Designed in three capacity sizes for up to 10, 15 and 20 tonnes per upright frame, Super Acrowrack employs a full complement of practical accessories, allowing re-deployment of the standard equipment.

Although primarily conceived to store palletised goods, Super Acrowrack can cope with many other items such as steel sheet and coil, carpets, drums, radiators and vehicle body panels. For other purposes Acrow has introduced three additional storage systems. Super Spacedeck, a long-span storage system designed for hand loading; Stockrack II, a shelving system, flexible enough to be used in stockrooms, warehouses or at points of sale; and Super HDC, a heavy-duty cantilever racking system for the storage of coil, sheet and bar.

A further development by Acrow is a floor panelling system designed to offer an economic and practical method of creating suspended aisle walkways or mezzanine floors. Acrofloor is fully integral with Super Acrowrack and Stockrack II storage systems. Tough steel construction gives load capability of up to 5 kn/m² and the panels are interlocked for exact vertical and horizontal alignment.

Further information: circle 331

Primarily conceived to store palletised goods.

Barrier provides for safe lift maintenance

Otis Elevator Company Ltd has introduced a new lift entrance barrier that meets the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act. It fits most lift entrances up to 1200 mm and is designed so that it remains fixed to the entrance during maintenance and cannot be easily pushed aside.

The act states that the responsibility for the safety of employees and the public rests foremost in the hands of a building owner. Otis has introduced this new entrance barrier to provide the factor of safety required by companies during the period when a lift is receiving maintenance, and the landing doors are open.

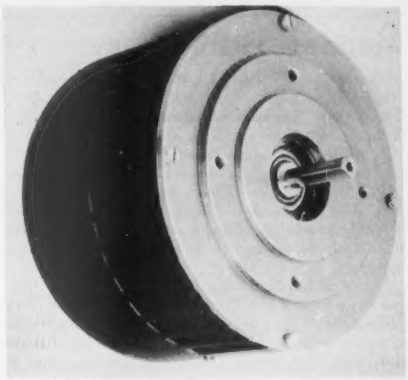
Security is achieved through the use of pins located in the bottom door track and spring-loaded pads mounted on retractable tubes bearing against the door head. The barrier is marked 'no entry'. It is manufactured from heavy gauge aluminium tube with aluminium hinges and a steel weldmesh 25 mm square riveted to the frame.

Further information: circle 332

Low-maintenance motor has printed-stator

A ¼hp brushless, permanent magnet dc motor has been introduced by Printed Motors Ltd, well-known for its range of printed-armature motors. The new model has the permanent magnets on the rotor while the flat, ironless stator is of the printed circuit type. Commutation between stator conductors is performed electronically using optical sensors or other means such as Hall-effect devices, depending on the application.

Reversing the functions of the stator and armature in the conventional printed-armature motor offers a number of important advantages. The absence of brushes reduces still further the already low maintenance requirement for motors of this type and enables them to be used in hazardous environments. Since the speed of the rotating stator field can be controlled independently the motor may be run in synchronism with an external signal and with other motors of the same type.



Absence of brushes reduces already low maintenance requirement.

All the advantages of printed-armature motors are retained in the new brushless, printed stator design. Starting torque and power/weight ratio are high, mechanical and electrical time constants are very low and power output is extremely smooth due to the large number of field switchings per revolution.

Further information: circle 333

Noise measured simply

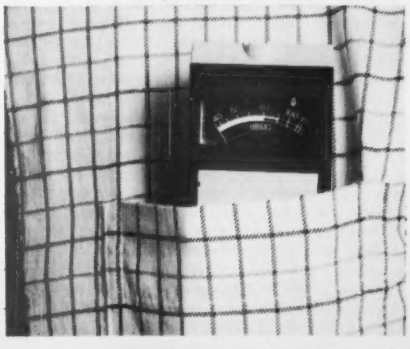
A pocket-size noise level indicator for measuring environmental noise pollution resulting from industrial and commercial activity is the latest product from Dohm London Ltd.

Precise data on noise pollution is obtained with the uncomplicated, hand-held Dohm noise level meter. Codes of practice on noise abatement together with statutory regulations define levels of 'nuisance' based on measurements and confirm the damaging effect noise exposure has upon employees' comfort, hearing, accidents, physical and psychological health and on productivity.

A sensitive built-in capacitor microphone and special filter records frequency-weighted readings based on scale A in IEC recommendation 123. An immediate and reliable noise level read-out over the objectionable noise spectrum 40 to 120 dB(A), can be obtained on a single scale at the press of a button, without involved mathematics.

Further information: circle 334

Noise-level at the press of a button.



Parliament

Monday, 19 February

Trade negotiations with China

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would make a statement about the government's trade negotiations with the People's Republic of China, with particular reference to the desire of the government of China to increase its textile exports to the west and to EEC countries including the United Kingdom in order to help pay for its imports of manufactured goods and technology.

Mr Meacher said that negotiations were in progress towards a UK/China economic co-operation agreement which envisaged a significant expansion to two-way trade. The EEC commission was discussing with the Chinese authorities the limitation of textile products into the community. He was confident that the Chinese authorities appreciated that arrangements for textile imports must be governed broadly by mfa principles.

Trade with Malta

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would make a statement on the position of trade between the United Kingdom and Malta, with specific reference to textiles. He also asked what were the present trading arrangements between Malta and the EEC.

Mr Meacher replied that trading arrangements between Malta and the EEC including the UK were covered by an association agreement of 5 December 1970 according certain privileged access to the imports of the contracting parties to each other's markets. The UK was the major supplier of Malta's imports supplying some £69 million worth of goods in 1978; and Malta's largest customer, imports from Malta into the UK in 1978 being £39 million. As regards trade in textiles, although negotiations between the commission and the Maltese were still continuing, he had nothing to add to his reply to the member for Harrow Central on 23 January (*Trade and Industry*, 2 February).

Car trade with Japan

Renée Short (Wolverhampton North East) asked the Secretary of State for Trade how many British cars were exported to Japan in 1978; what percentage this was of the Japanese car market; how many cars were imported from Japan; and what help he was giving the British car industry markedly to increase its sales to Japan in the current year.

Mr Meacher said that figures of the numbers of cars exported from the UK and imported into the UK in 1978 were given in the following table. Corresponding information on the penetration of the various overseas markets was not available. There was relatively little comparable information of this kind readily available. An approximate measure of penetration was provided by the ratio of the number of UK new cars exported to the number of registrations of new cars. This measure was only approximate because of, *inter alia*, timing and coverage differences in the figures of exports and registrations; however, the estimates were considered to provide a reasonably broad guide to penetration levels. The estimates were given, where available, in the following table in respect of 1977, the latest year for which figures of new car registrations were available.

On the final part of the questions, during the current year his department would continue to provide the car industry with information about business opportunities and longer-term prospects arising in overseas markets including those to which the questioner had referred. The government would also continue to monitor foreign regulations likely to affect UK exports to particular markets and make representations on behalf of the industry when appropriate. Specifically, the department had supported, or expected to support, the industry in its overseas marketing efforts in 1979 by assisting its participation in international exhibitions in Chicago, Los Angeles, Malmo, Belgrade and Tokyo. In addition the department provided considerable help to exporters of vehicles other than cars, and of components and accessories. For example, it expected in 1979 to support accessory exporters at another eight international exhibitions, and, in addition, special help was given to manufacturers of mechanical components in identifying and following up European sales opportunities.

	UK trade in cars, 1978 [1]		
	No of exports to	No of imports from	Approximate UK [2] share of overseas car markets in 1977
Russia	47	17 998	n.a.
Italy	8 959	102 036	¾%
West Germany	18 178	209 871	½%
USA	56 193	2 332	½%
France	15 304	149 723	¾%
Sweden	1 489	28 080	2%
Spain	294	26 744	less than ½%
South Africa	45 520	117	19%
Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and East Germany	383	15 167	n.a.
Yugoslavia and Romania	787	2	n.a.
South America	4 130	18	n.a.
Belgium/Luxembourg	11 519	73 524	2½%
Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Egypt	5 428	14	n.a.
Africa (excluding north African states and South Africa)	14 395	25	n.a.
Japan	3 393	168 192	less than ½%

[1] Source: UK overseas trade statistics SITC (rev 2) code 781.0, covers new and used cars. [2] Approximate estimates, defined as the ratio of UK exports of new cars to registrations of new cars. Source: UK exports of new cars: overseas trade statistics, Registrations of new cars: United Nations monthly bulletin of statistics. n.a. – not available.

Regional patent filing offices

Malcolm Rifkind (Edinburgh, Pentlands) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether he would agree to the establishment of regional filing offices for the lodging of patent documents in view of the recommendations to that effect by the joint working party of the patent office and the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents.

Mr Clinton Davis said that it was a matter which was now being considered and he hoped to announce his decision shortly.

SWP objectives

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked how many sector working parties last year achieved the output objectives, home-market objectives and overseas market penetration goals that they set themselves and how many failed to do so; how many had revised these targets downwards for the coming year; and what purpose had been achieved by the setting of these targets.

Mr Huckfield replied that, in general, the sector working parties' objectives were set in terms of the performance which might be possible by 1980 or by later years, in accordance with the essentially long-term nature of the strategy. They were not set annually for periods one year ahead. The objectives were intended to be ambitious yet realistic, and to provide a framework within which sectoral strategies could be developed. As the international and macro-economic environment within which SWPs operated changed and performance to date was measured, SWPs were free to reassess and modify the objectives previously adopted. In their latest reports, seven SWPs had done so, five downward and two upward.

Biotechnological processes

Renée Short (Wolverhampton North East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would take steps to draw up ways to further research and development in biotechnological processes which could be exploited by British industry before major competitors from other countries dominated this field.

Mr Huckfield said that while acknowledging the potential importance of biotechnology, he was satisfied that research and development, both on behalf of UK industry and within industry itself, could be advanced satisfactorily under existing arrangements. A favourable attitude towards work in that area was already being taken by relevant funding bodies, including the chemicals and minerals requirements board of his department. In view of the already considerable activity among UK industrial companies, he saw no need for further measures at this stage.

Financial assistance for private industry

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was the total of financial assistance, for which his department was responsible, provided to private industry, since February 1974.

Mr Williams replied that financial assistance, for which his department was responsible, to all sectors of industry in the period from 1 April 1974, including forecast expenditure in 1978-79, totalled £6,148 million in 1978 survey prices and was included in the programme detailed in table 2.4 of the public expenditure survey (Cmnd 7439). Records were not kept which distinguished in all instances between financial assistance to the public and private sectors, but assistance to the private sector during the period in question totalled approximately £5,000 million.

Industrial investment

David Knox (Leek) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what had been the level of industrial investment during the most recent 12-month period for which figures were available, and what was the comparable figure for the previous 12-month period.

Mr Williams said that investment by manufacturing industry in the 12 months ending September 1978 was estimated at £3,780 million at 1975 prices, 8 per cent above the level of £3,496 million in the previous 12 months.

BSC investment projects

Peter Hardy (Rother Valley) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would list investment projects valued at £1 million or more which were underway or which had been completed during the last five years in the Sheffield or Rotherham areas of the British Steel Corporation.

Mr Huckfield said that there were 44 such projects, costing in all £337 million at outturn prices.

Steel import penetration

Stan Crowther (Rotherham) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what steps he intended to take to help the steel industry to resist further import penetration, in the light of the most recent report of the National Economic Development Council, iron and steel sector working party.

Mr Huckfield answered that the department was supporting action by the commission to secure more orderly marketing of steel within the community and to restrain disruptive imports from third countries, and it was encouraging improved productivity and competitiveness of the British steel industry. The department had, for example, offered help to the special steels industry under its schemes for encouraging industrial investment.

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: John Smith
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Steel dumping

Frank Kooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what recent discussions had taken place in Brussels about the dumping of special steels in the United Kingdom from other European economic community states.

Mr Huckfield said the concept of dumping between member states was not recognised by the common market treaties but discussions about alleged discriminatory pricing and about overproduction of special steels was continuing. The secretary of state was awaiting advice from the industry before replying to the further letter he had received from Commissioner Davignon last month.

Cheap polymer plastics

Renée Short (Wolverhampton North East) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what action he was taking along with his fellow EEC ministers to limit the import of cheap polymer plastics into western Europe.

Mr Meacher said that he had not had any approach from the United Kingdom industry on this matter and was not considering any such action. But he understood that the Association of Plastics Manufacturers in Europe would be having discussions with Commissioner Davignon and EEC commission officials on 19 February.

Textile anti dumping

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the Secretary of state for Trade how many applications under the anti-dumping legislation were waiting for decision under the existing EEC anti-dumping procedures, with particular reference to textiles.

Mr Meacher replied that 12 applications which had been announced for full investigation under EEC anti-dumping regulations were currently awaiting a decision. The only one of these which involved textiles was polyamide and polyester high-tenacity yarn for specialised industrial use from the United States.

BL financial performance

Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what were the current financial performance requirements for British Leyland.

Mr Huckfield said that the NEB's financial duty in relation to BL was to secure in 1981 a rate of return, before interest and taxation, of 10 per cent on the capital employed in BL. In the years prior to 1981 the NEB was required to maintain progress towards that objective.

Textile industry

Ronald Atkins (Preston North) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many factories in the Lancashire textile industry were closed and how many new factories were opened during 1978.

Mr Williams replied that, in the county of Lancashire and greater Manchester combined, 19 textile factories closed in 1978 and according to the best available information four were opened.

Tuesday, 20 February

Pharmaceutical exports

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would publish the exports achieved by United Kingdom-based pharmaceutical companies in each of the years 1968 to 1978 inclusive.

Mr Meacher gave the following information on the value of exports of medicinal and pharmaceutical products:

	£ million fob		
1968	97	1974	301
1969	119	1975	373
1970	140	1976	452
1971	168	1977	554
1972	181	1978	655
1973	221		

Cloth imports

Cyril Smith (Rochdale) asked why Pakistan was allowed to export to the United Kingdom cloth from July to December 1978 at the rate of 14 044 tonnes against a quota of 10 445 tonnes.

Mr Meacher replied that the Department of Trade had issued import licences totalling 10 850 tonnes for imports of cotton cloth shipped from Pakistan between 1 January and 31 December 1978 against the 1978 category 2 quota, which was increased to 10 967 tonnes by use of the flexibility provisions of the EEC/Pakistan textile agreement. Importations during this period not counting against the 1978 quota included goods for re-export, goods imported under free circulation arrangements and goods shipped from Pakistan towards the end of the previous year (against the 1977 quota). No figures were available for the period from July to December 1978 which would correspond with those quoted.

Insurance advertising

Ernest Perry (Wandsworth, Battersea South) asked what progress was being made with the preparation of regulations, regarding insurance advertisement under section 62 of the Insurance Companies Act 1974.

Mr Clinton Davis answered that the Department of Trade would shortly be consulting the insurance industry on a draft of the regulations.

Oil and gas platforms

Peter Viggers (Gosport) asked the Secretary of State for Trade to what standard he would expect licencees to restore the environment when removing redundant oil and gas platforms from United Kingdom offshore waters.

Mr Clinton Davis said that as a condition of the consent given to the erection on site of an oil or gas platform, the offshore operating company was required, when removing the platform, to clear the site to the satisfaction of the secretary of state within such period as he might direct, so that no obstruction or danger to navigation was caused or was likely to result.

Mr Viggers also asked the Secretary of State for Trade what action he had taken to ensure that licensees had made sufficient financial provision to fulfil their obligations to remove oil and gas platforms when they eventually become redundant.

Mr Clinton Davis said that although it was a condition of the consent given to the erection of an oil or gas platform that the company concerned was obliged to remove a platform which was abandoned or fell into disuse, it was for the company itself to decide what financial provision should be made in order to meet that obligation.

Biotechnology

Renée Short (Wolverhampton North East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he estimated that British industry would be able to produce the essential equipment needed for the manufacture of biotechnological process, and what steps he was taking to ensure this.

Mr Huckfield said that British industry was capable of making plant and control gear for most processes of a biotechnological nature. The sectors concerned were eligible for a wide range of government support schemes which should adequately cover biotechnological process developments. Examples were the selective investment scheme, the product and process development scheme, the microprocessor application scheme and the support provided through the research and development requirements boards. His department was anxious to give all possible assistance to the process plant and equipment industries but in this context did not see a need for additional action at present arising from biotechnological developments.

Mrs Short also asked the Secretary of State for Industry what support he was giving the British Co-ordinating Committee for Biotechnology.

Mr Huckfield said that the British Co-ordinating Committee for Biotechnology did not receive support from the Department of Industry, nor had the Department of Industry received any request for such support.

Wednesday, 21 February

Talks with Dunlop

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what proposals the government had for the National Enterprise Board to take a holding in Dunlop Ltd as part of any scheme of government aid to that company's tyre business.

Mr Huckfield said discussions had taken place between his department and Dunlop on possible government assistance. These were continuing.

Trade with Mexico

T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what had been, by volume and value, the amount on petroleum, chemical and associated equipment exported to Mexico over the past decade, and whether any agreement had recently been reached between the British and Mexican governments to increase trade between the two countries.

Mr Meacher said no agreement had been concluded between the two countries since a memorandum of understanding on economic and industrial co-operation signed with the Mexican government in April 1976. This, together with the joint commission which it created, had provided a useful framework for the development of commercial relations between our countries. Mr Meacher expressed satisfaction with Mexico's recent application to join the Gatt.

The value and volume of identifiable UK exports of petroleum, chemical, and related equipment to Mexico during the last ten years were as follows:

	Value (£ thousand fob)		Value (£ thousand fob)	Volume (tonnes)
1969	195	1974	192	117
1970	116	1975	4 173	2 930
1971	67	1976	2 779	1 195
1972	184	1977	2 233	1 108
1973	110	1978	3 357	1 033

Source: UK overseas trade statistics, mainly SITC (rev 1) items 719. 13, 14, and 19 and 729.92 (part), and SITC (rev 2) sub groups/items 741.1, 2, 31, 32, and 0.

Details of trade are not available on a consistent basis of volume before 1974.

Thursday, 22 February

Live sheep exports

Robin Corbett (Hemel Hempstead) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what, for each of the last two years for which figures were available, were the number of live sheep exported for further fattening and for slaughter, listed by the country declared as the final destination.

Mr Meacher gave the following available information:

UK EXPORTS OF LIVE SHEEP NOT FOR BREEDING

Country of destination	Lambs (up to a year old)		Other	
	1977	1978	1977	1978
Irish Republic	74 059	151 019	79 047	160 519
Belgium-Luxembourg	34 465	17 528	82 308	185 101
Federal Republic of Germany	1 265	399	49 828	51 867
France	2 080	5 081	30 451	9 689
Total	111 869	174 027	241 634	407 176

Source: UK overseas trade statistics, SITC sub-group 001.2. The overseas trade statistics do not distinguish between sheep for further fattening and those for immediate slaughter.

Friday, 23 February

Gas disconnection

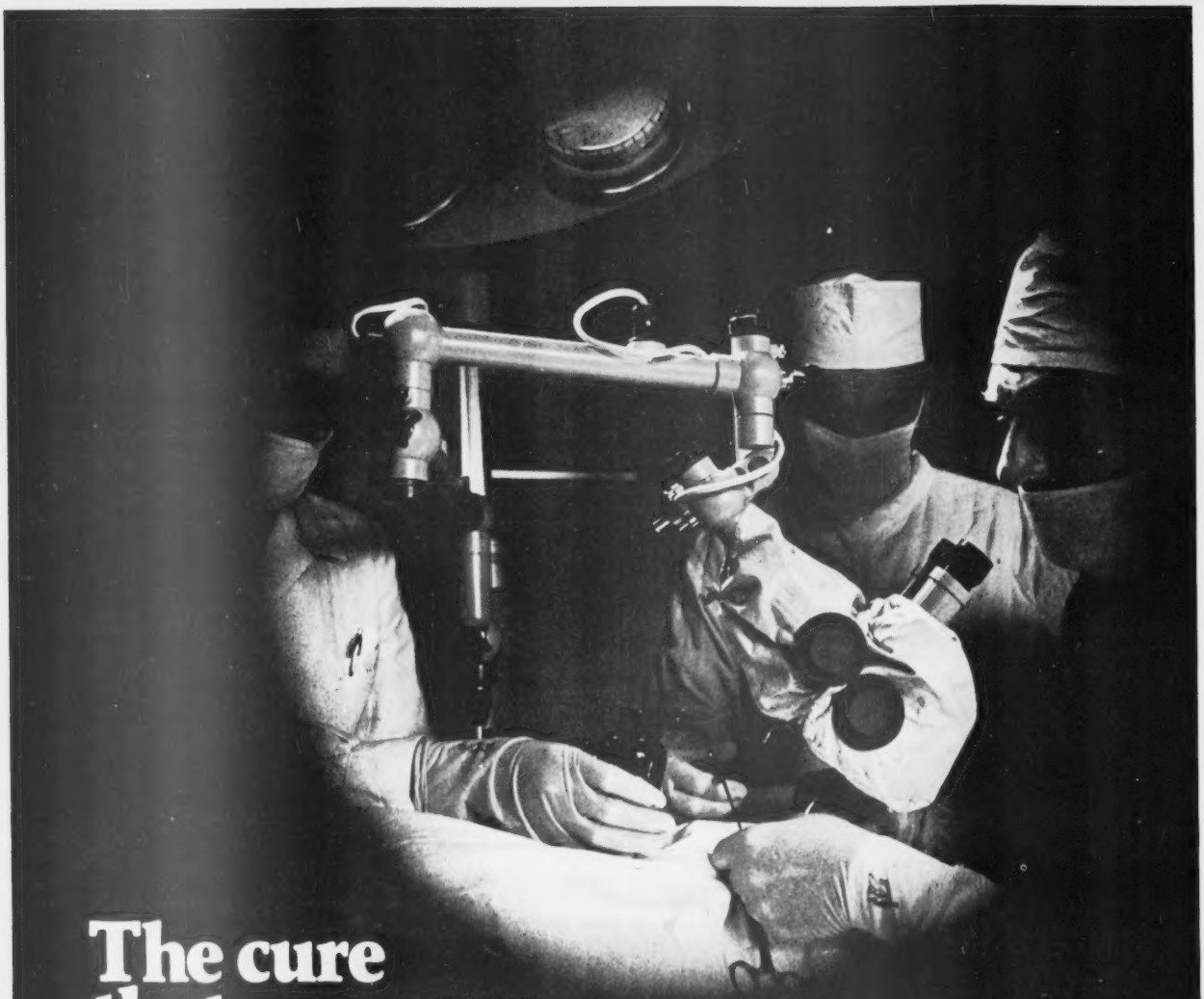
Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Woolwich West) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what progess the National Gas Consumers Council had made on answering the question submitted to the National Fuel Poverty Forum in July 1978, at his request, on gas disconnection.

Mr Maclennan said he understood that the National Gas Consumers' Council gave answers last September to questions put by the National Fuel Poverty Forum for which they were able to compile the information. Further research into the issue of disconnection of domestic gas and electricity supplies formed part of the independent study of the working of the code of practice which the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy announced on 1 August.

Plastic bottle manufacturers

Renée Short (Wolverhampton North East) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what help he was giving British plastic bottle manufacturers and plastic bottle plant manufacturers; and if he would take steps in this field so as to limit the high level of French and Dutch imports which were likely to occur within the next 12 months.

Mr Meacher said that British manufacturers of plastic bottles and plastic bottle plant had the same access to assistance as was available to all manufacturers under the Industry Act 1972. They might also be eligible for assistance under the product and process development scheme which was administered under the Science and Technology Act 1972.



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European community news

Silkin stands by UK fisheries policy

Fisheries minister John Silkin has confirmed the UK's position on fisheries' conservation measures, following the European commission's decision on 21 February to take the UK to the European court of justice over the issue.

Mr Silkin said on 22 February that he believed the measures were fully justified and non-discriminatory. They were based on independent scientific research which indicated the need for this sort of conservation.

The measures concern the granting of herring quotas to small boats in two areas where herring fishing is banned – the Mourne fishery off Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man fishery – and the enlargement of the Norway pout box, an area in the North Sea where industrial fishing is banned.

Still no agreement at fisheries council

Britain maintained its reserves on the framework agreements with Norway, Sweden, the Faröes, Spain and Canada at the 20 February fisheries council.

In a written parliamentary reply fisheries minister John Silkin said he had indicated that he would be prepared to accept the Canadian agreement, which had special features, if some consideration were also to be shown by others on points of importance to the UK. But since such consideration had not been shown he had maintained the UK reserve.

The minister said he had not been able to approve proposals granting fishing rights in member states' waters to Norwegian and Swedish vessels for 1979, in line with arrangements negotiated by the commission, because of the absence of proposals for a division among member states of 1979 community quotas at north Norway.

It had therefore been agreed that the existing arrangements for Norwegian, Swedish and Faröese fishing should be rolled forward until the end of March.

Further consideration would be given to commission proposals to limit overall community catches of certain stocks shared with third countries, most importantly the North Sea stocks shared with Norway, Mr Silkin said. He pointed out that in the absence of other regulatory measures, such limitations could lead to an undesirable concentration of fishing efforts in the early part of the year, and he had suggested that the problem would be alleviated by the rapid introduction of a minimum mesh size of 80 mm for white fish fisheries.

There had been little discussion on, and no progress towards, a satisfactory revision of the common fisheries policy, he said. This council had been mainly concerned with relations with third countries.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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Progress made on shipping line code

EEC ministers made substantial progress towards a community position on the UN code of conduct for liner conferences at the transport council on 20 February.

This progress was based on compromise proposals put forward by the presidency and the commission which would enable all member states to become contracting parties to the code, subject to certain reservations and understandings.

In a written parliamentary answer on 22 February, trade secretary John Smith said the council had not been able to reach a final agreement, however. The UK had been particularly concerned, Mr Smith said, to preserve a commercially competitive environment for conferences operating between the OECD countries. The community had, in large measure, accepted this aim. The code would of course not apply at all where the OECD trading partner was not a contracting party.

Where it was, under the compromise proposals, member states would disapply the code's cargo-sharing provisions and certain other of the code's rigid features, subject to two caveats. The two caveats were that the OECD trading partner should reciprocate this disapplication, and that there should be no prejudice to the possibility of participation in such conferences by national shipping lines of developing countries, in accordance with the principles reflected in the relevant part of the code.

The proposals said that in trade between the EEC and developing countries, the lines of developing countries which were parties to the code would enjoy full codist rights. The EEC lines would place their shares of these trades into a central pot, which would then be distributed according to commercial rather than codist criteria. But the final decision on this distribution of cargoes would have to be unanimous with a view to each line carrying a fair share of the conference trade. This commercial distribution process in codist trades with developing countries would be open to the lines of other OECD countries on a basis of reciprocity.

The compromise proposals also envisage that the community would urge other OECD countries considering accession to the code to adopt the community arrangements as a model. At the council, Denmark drew attention to the importance of taking into account the views of other OECD countries, especially the United States and Japan, before taking a final view. The UK understood and shared its concern, the trade secretary said.

Italy was unwilling to accept the commercial distribution arrangements for the codist trades with developing countries without a political declaration indicating that the national lines of each member state would not be expected to suffer a substantial reduction in its codist shares.

The council had generally felt that this would defeat the scheme's objectives. The Italian minister was invited to reconsider the position with his government colleagues in Rome. The commission would meanwhile make contact with the United States and Japan as well as Italy.

Mr Smith said he still hoped a community position could be achieved soon on this important shipping issue. There were likely to be further discussions at council level in early March.

Ministers also considered a proposal for a community driving licence. UK transport minister, William Rodgers, told the council he was prepared to move towards a community licence for car drivers, but would oppose one for heavy goods vehicle drivers' on safety grounds. Road traffic statistics supported the UK government's view, Mr Rodgers said. No conclusion had been reached.

The council also considered a draft directive on aircraft noise and a draft decision on ship inspections. The UK maintained a reserve position on both these community instruments pending further consideration of the implications for community competence.

EEC farm policy bad for Britain, bad for Europe – Silkin

Action on support prices is needed to deal with the scandals of the common agricultural policy (CAP). This was emphasised by agriculture minister John Silkin speaking to the diplomatic and commonwealth writers' association on 21 February.

These scandals included over-production, high consumer prices, a heavy burden on the taxpayer and distortion of international trade.

Of the £6.4 billion allocated to CAP support in 1979, 45 per cent was for export subsidies and more than 30 per cent for intervention purchase, storage, and subsidised sales of surplus production, he said. It was on support prices that the council of ministers had allowed itself to evade the real issues, over the years.

As far as management of the CAP was concerned, the minister said the world shortages and price explosions of 1972 to 1974 were a double misfortune. They had not only paved the way for yet more increases in support prices – they also seemed to justify the doctrine of EEC self-sufficiency in foodstuffs. But self-sufficiency was not a goal that could be pursued regardless of cost, or of its effect on the legitimate and vital economic needs of other countries.

'Nowhere do we see this so clearly as in our dealings with developing countries. We should be encouraging them to grow their own foodstuffs by offering and exporting our technology and expertise. If we pretend that world poverty is really alleviated by dumping high-cost food surpluses on world markets we may delude ourselves, but we shall not delude the world.'

Mr Silkin said he believed not only that the common agricultural policy was bad for Britain but also that it was bad for Europe and for the world. There was a tendency to think of the CAP only in terms of its disadvantages to Britain. Yet the very obviousness of the policy's disadvantages for Britain had tended to obscure many of the deep-seated differences among the other member states – and the extent to which they as a matter of course pursued national interests. Ministers were all concerned, he said, and rightly concerned, to protect the interests of their own countries. 'This state of affairs is very clear at the moment, as we see the architects of the European monetary system, France and Germany, unable to prevent even that from getting bogged down in the morass of farm prices and monetary compensatory amounts.'

The UK believed this was the year of the great change, Mr Silkin said. Some of the UK's partners seemed not to believe that this country was serious in its insistence on a prices freeze. 'I assure them that we are: this is not a negotiating tactic – and to suppose so would be to misunderstand the degree of the government's concern about the cost of the CAP.

'The main reason for Britain's disatisfaction with the policy was food prices. But beyond this, Britain's net budget contribution made every man, woman and child in this country poorer. For, as the biggest net contributor to the farm budget, the UK was the agricultural paymaster of Europe.'

The CAP now faced the real possibility of collapse from inside arising from the 'agri-monetary' chaos and structural surpluses and budgetary costs.

'We cannot accept a patched-up solution to the one problem if its effect is to worsen the other; that is, which does not allow for a reduction in the real level of prices. For, as I have said, only by pursuing a policy which eliminates the scandal of excessive food production can we hope to reach a solution to the basic problem of the CAP'.

EIB loans up 40 per cent

Financing operations carried out by the European Investment Bank (EIB) rose last year to 2188.3 million units of account. In its preliminary figures for 1978, issued on 15 February, this represented a 39.2 per cent increase on 1977. The bank's annual lending has more than doubled since 1975.

Loans for projects in member states amounted last year to 1966.5 million ua, up 40.3 per cent on the total lent in 1977. In line with the principal task given to the EIB under the treaty of Rome, almost three-quarters went as investment in regions which are economically less developed, or confronted with industrial conversion problems.

These loans were made for a variety of industrial projects – water supply, sewerage and irrigation schemes, telecommunications, transport improvements, and electricity and gas supply projects. Southern Italy benefited the most, with almost half the total amount lent for regional development, but finance was also extended for many projects in other regions, principally northern England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and the north, east and west of France.

Lending for projects of common interest to several member states or the community as a whole, the bank's other priority role under the treaty, rose by more than a third to 662.0 million ua. Funds were provided for several important transport schemes, improving links between member states, but most went to a range of energy projects which will help to reduce the community's dependence upon oil imports.

To finance its lending activities, the EIB stepped up its borrowings in 1978 to a total of 1949.7 million ua, raised on the international markets and on certain national markets, both within and outside the community.

The impact on employment made by the projects which the bank helped to finance were: jobs equivalent to 620 000 man-years of work, involved in construction, plus the supply of necessary services and materials; the creation of an estimated 11 000 permanent jobs plus the safeguarding of 10 000 more, mainly in the industrial projects financed by the bank; the long-term effects of most infrastructure projects – concerning energy, communications and water supplies, for example. These created few permanent jobs directly but were of fundamental importance if conditions for economic growth are to be improved.

Over a third of EIB loans in the community in 1978 – 721.2 million ua, up more than 90 per cent on the previous year – went to energy projects; 540.9 million ua concerned electricity production and transmission, and 180.4 million ua the development of European oil and gas resources plus pipelines and storage installations.

Communications improvements accounted for loans totalling 625.6 million ua: of this, telecommunications attracted 305.2 million ua; 185.1 million went for road links; 63.9 million to sea transport; 55.3 million for railway development; and 16.1 million for air transport.

Lending to industry came to 262.6 million ua against 426.2 million ua in 1977. Demand for loans was low, with the difficult economic climate leading many firms to hold back investment. Some major public enterprises which borrowed large sums in previous years were not borrowers in 1978. An encouraging feature, however, was the amount provided in the form of global loans to intermediary financial institutions which then relend the funds to small- and medium-sized ventures. This reached 99.9 million ua against 91.3 million in 1977.

During 1978 credit provided from these global loans, and from others granted previously, totalled 72.2 million ua and helped to finance 155 ventures. As these smaller projects

How the UK benefited from EIB loans

In the UK, EIB lending was 430.7 million ua (£286.3 million), some 22 per cent of all operations within the community, divided as follows:

- ☐ Water supply and sewerage schemes, 174.1 million ua, for the north east and north west, Yorkshire, the south west, the Midlands, south Wales and in the Lothian and Grampian regions of Scotland.
- ☐ Improved energy supplies, 116.4 million ua, for construction of a pumped-storage hydroelectronic power station in Dinorwic, north Wales, a thermal power station at Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, the Hartlepool nuclear power station and the Urenco gas centrifuge uranium enrichment plant Cheshire.
- ☐ Investment in industry, 45 million ua, for small- and medium-sized ventures through a scheme where the regional offices of the Department of Industry in England, the Scottish Economic Planning Department, the Welsh Office Industry Department and the Department of Commerce in Northern Ireland act on the EIB's behalf and use the finance provided by the bank to make loans for investment in assisted areas, priority going to ventures making the most impact on employment. The modernisation of a copper refinery and expansion of a fertiliser plant, both in Merseyside, and a new soft drinks production and bottling plant, in Glasgow, were also supported by the bank.
- ☐ Other loans went towards construction of high-speed diesel trains for the London-Aberdeen main line, extension of Sumburgh airport in the Shetlands and improvements to the telephone system in the Hull area.

tend to be labour-intensive, creating many jobs in relation to the scale of investment, they are all the more important in the present circumstances.

Indonesia hosts second Asean-EEC conference

Indonesia was the host for the second conference between the Association of South-east Asian Nations (Asean) and the EEC on industrial co-operation held from 26 to 28 February in Jakarta. The conference aimed at bringing about practical results in developing industrial co-operation between the two regional groups.

The conference concentrated on a number of sectoral projects – chemical industries, electrical and electronics industries, industrial transformation of agricultural products, machinery and metal engineering industries, timber and timber-based industries, precision engineering industries, transport and communications equipment manufacturing industries, and export crops plantations.

The conference was jointly organised by the European commission and the governments of the Asean member countries: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Sausage casings agreement infringes competition rules

Certain clauses in a licensing agreement between Alex Moris, PVBA (Almo) and Vleeswarenfabrieken Imperial NV (Imperial) about synthetic casings for sausages restrict competition, the European commission has decided.

The agreement concerns a Belgian patent relating to a process and a device for use in manufacturing meat sausages, particularly saucissons de Boulogne, held by the manager and principal shareholder in Almo, Alex Moris.

Mr Moris licensed Almo to work his patent and Almo in turn sub-licensed Imperial on condition that Imperial agreed not to challenge the patent, and that Imperial unde took to obtain all its supplies of sausage casings for use with the Moris patent from Almo.

This undertaking not to challenge the patent is seen by the commission as a restriction of competition under article 85(1) of the treaty of Rome, because it deprives Imperial of the opportunity of removing an obstacle to its freedom of action by means of an action for the revocation of the patent. In addition the exclusivity clause restricts competition and trade between member states, since the sausage casings themselves are not covered by the patent and it is possible to use other suppliers' casings, and not just Almo's.

In effect, the clause deprives Imperial of its freedom to obtain supplies of casings, which could be substantially cheaper, from other companies in Belgium or in other member states.

The commission has decided that the clauses cannot be exempted under article 85(3) because they do not contribute to an improvement in the production or distribution of goods or to the promotion of technical or economic progress and that they do, in fact, impede such progress.

The commission has decided not to fine Mr Moris and Almo because, instead of charging royalties on the use of the patent they have merely required Imperial to use Almo casings, and the sale of casings is, therefore, the sole return they receive. However the parties must terminate the no-challenge and exclusive purchasing clauses.

The decision is contained in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L19, 26 January.

Further information can be obtained from the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Fair Trading Division, 1b, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU, tel. 01-211 5122.

Community activity for 1979 in a promising economic outlook

Last year was a year of contrasting economic fortune for the European community according to its recently published, 'Twelfth general annual report on the European communities' activities for 1978'. With an upturn in growth during the year, a peaking-out of unemployment, which has even started to fall in some member states, the economic outlook at the end of 1978 was more promising, says the report, and gradual recovery now under way gives reason to hope that the community is beginning to emerge from the economic crisis.

Attached to the report, which reviews the main developments and achievements in every sector of community activity, is memorandum outlining the objectives for each sector in 1979 and the main proposals which the commission intends to submit to the council during the year. Some of the most important proposals for internal measures are summarised below:

Organisation of zone of monetary stability. Efforts will be concentrated on the introduction of the new exchange-rate system and on the attainment of a greater degree of convergence in the performance of economic policies in member states.

Removal of technical barriers to trade. The aim will be to seek adoption of remaining motor vehicle proposals to complete arrangements for community type approval. There will be new proposals for directives on agricultural tractors and measuring instruments and proposals to restrict the impact on trade of measures issued by member states' standards institutions.

Customs legislation. Proposals will be made for achieving a greater degree of uniformity in rules governing trade with non-member countries; adjustment of the rules on value for customs purposes (depending on outcome of Gatt negotiations); harmonisation of export procedures (second half of year); harmonisation of provisions governing scope of information provided by customs administrations (second half of year); establishment of a simplified procedure for goods in free circulation to stay temporarily within a member state (first half of year); improvements to the community transit scheme (second half of year); settlement of disputes (second half of year); harmonisation of general duty-free schemes (first half of year); and conversion into regulations of current community directives on customs procedures with economic impact (second half of year).

Insurance. There will be new proposals for: directive on the co-ordination of legislation governing insurance contracts (first half of year); directives on protection of legal rights and on credit insurance (first half of year).

Banks. The commission will examine with the advisory committee composed of senior officials of member states in the field of banking legislation and supervision, a general programme of work, and will adopt measures relating the annual accounts of banks, authorisation requirements and observation ratios.

Securities markets. There will be a new proposal for a community issue prospectus for transferable securities (second half of year); and a proposal facilitating access to the profession of stockbroker (second half of year).

Regional policy. New methods will be sought to ensure that the regional fund has a genuine impact on the development of the less-favoured regions, including the launching of integrated regional development operations designed to concentrate the community's efforts.

Employment and social policy. The commission's prime objective continues to be to improve employment levels while creating genuine opportunities for young people, women and migrant workers. New proposals for the promotion of better distribution of available work, compatible with the requirements of productivity and competivity; and for worker participation to make the information and consultation of workers or their representatives compulsory in groups of undertakings (second half of year).

Energy policy. The aim is to make substantial progress towards the objective of reducing the community's dependence on imported energy by 1985. New proposals for a second directive on the performance, regulation and inspection of heat generators, and implementing directives on the energy consumption labelling of domestic appliances (second half of year). The commission will urge the council to adopt and implement proposals put forward in 1977 and 1978 (support for power station coal and intra-community trade in steam coal and coking coal).

Company law. Priority will be given to finishing council work on the seventh directive on group accounts and the eighth directive on the approval of persons responsible for auditing accounts. A proposal for a directive on groups of companies will be sent to the council.

Free movement of persons. There will be new proposals on movement within the community of nationals of member states who do not yet enjoy the conditions of entry and residence accorded by community law to employed and self-employed workers (first half of year); on problems pertaining to personal income tax, notably for frontier workers (second half of year); on the regulation of certain aspects of civil liability insurance in respect of use of motor vehicles.

Restrictive practices. A draft regulation specifying the circumstances in which patent licensing agreements may be considered compatible with the EEC treaty's competition rules (first half of year). Regulation exempting certain categories of exclusive dealing agreements will be recast to bring it into line with the latest common market developments (first half of year).

Excise duties. The adoption of proposals for directives on spirits, wine and beer and on mineral oils will be given priority.

Value added tax. Proposals will be sent to the council in the second half of the year for directives to ensure the uniform application of VAT to the stores of vessels and aircraft; the importation of goods qualifying for customs duty exemption other than exemption provided for in the common customs tariff; and goods placed under arrangements for processing under customs control before being declared for home use.

Direct taxation. Efforts will be made to obtain final adoption by the council of the proposal for a directive on the system of taxation applicable to mergers, divisions and contributions of assets occurring between companies of different member states and for progress on the proposal for the harmonisation of systems of company taxation directive. A proposal on the personal taxation of frontier workers' income will also be made.

The commission expects to present a green paper on the scope for the ways of advancing, through converging tax systems, towards a 'mean' community structure (second half of year).

Common agricultural policy. The commission will work to persuade the council to reach a decision on proposals for a rigorous price policy; restoring the balance between supply and demand on markets in structural surplus, particularly milk; and on reforming the agri-monetary system to allow for the introduction of the EMS.

Common fisheries policy. The primary objective will be to ensure that a common fisheries policy adapted to the new international context of 200-mile exclusive fishing zones is finally implemented. This will involve in the first half of the year action to establish the community system for the conservation and management of resources and the control of their exploitation, and negotiation and application of bilateral agreements with non-member countries.

Transport policy. A memorandum on the general policy for transport infrastructure will be presented in the first half of the year. New proposals: for a regulation on financial support for transport infrastructure projects of community interest, and for harmonising inspection of ships at sea, with a view to harmonising inspections of ships in community ports (first half of year).

The commission intends to take steps to produce a community solution to the problem of the code of conduct for liner conferences (first half of year); to work out measures applying competition rules to sea transport (first half of year).

New proposals for: structural improvements to the market for the carriage of goods by inland waterway; making railways more efficient and financially independent; promoting the use of combined (road-rail) transport; and the establishment of common rules for access to the market for the carriage of goods by road and inland waterway.

Consumer protection. A new consumer protection and information policy programme will be prepared. New proposals: for a consumer credit directive (first half of year); for a rapid exchange of information system on hazards of dangerous products; for directives on textile names and composition labelling and on methods of analysing certain textile products; for adapting the directive on cosmetic products to technical progress; and for a directive on toys intended to ensure their free movement within the community and to protect the health of young consumers.

Environment. New proposals: for directives on certain particularly harmful pollutants in industrial effluent; on fluorocarbons, in view of their potential risks to man and the environment; and for directives on sound levels of domestic appliances, of certain types of construction equipment and on measuring the noise of construction equipment.

Anti-dumping duty lifted on steel from Japan

Following satisfactory undertakings by the Japanese about their exports of steel to the EEC in 1979, the UK government has decided to lift the anti-dumping duty on light steel sections originating in Japan.

The duty ceased to be collected on imports into the UK on and after 27 February.

The full description of the duty is:

Ex 73.11 A1 Angles, shapes and sections of iron or steel, other than channels, girders, beams, joists, pillars and columns, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded (ECSC) and not drilled, punched or otherwise fabricated, of which the greatest dimension of the cross-section is less than 80 mm, originating in Japan at a rate of £11.00 per tonne.

New EEC documents

This list of EEC documents was deposited in the house of commons in the seven days to 13 February 1979 (commission reference numbers, where appropriate, are given in parentheses). The documents are available for consultation at the European Communities Commission Information Office, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.

Draft instruments

R/4553/79. Proposal for a council regulation laying down for the period 1 February to 31 March 1979 certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Spain (COM(79)28).

R/4566/79. Proposal for a council directive establishing measures for the implementation of directive 77/489/EEC on the protection of animals during international transport (COM(79)764).

R/4615/79. Proposal for a council directive on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to edible caseine and caseinates (COM(79)9).

R/4648/79. Commission proposals to the council on the fixing of prices for certain agricultural products and on certain related measures (COM(79)10).

Suspension of the CCT: restoration of duty

Articles in the 8 and 15 December 1978 issues of *Trade and Industry* announced the review of common customs tariff suspensions due to expire at 30 June. Arising out of this review it has been indicated that suspension of duty is no longer required on the following items:

CCT heading/Description
ex 29.23 E *N*-Benzyl-*N*-(3-hydroxybenzoylmethyl)methylammonium chloride
ex 29.29 1,3-Bis-(4-chlorobenzylideneamino) guanidinium chloride
ex 29.35 Q 2-Chloro-10*H*-dibenz[*b*,*f*][1,4]oxazepin-11-one

The department will wish to take account of UK interests before any decisions are taken on whether to restore these goods to the full CCT rate of duty with effect from 1 July.

UK concerns wishing to see suspension of duty retained for a further period are invited to provide written details of the estimated quantity and value of imports from third countries for the period 1 July 1979 to 30 June 1980.

This information should reach the Department of Trade, General Division, Room 332, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, no later than 16 March 1979. **Inquiries:** 01-215 3576.

New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations and directive which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Pigs and pigmeat. Regulation (EEC) 142/79 on special conditions for the granting of private storage aid for pigmeat (*Official Journal* L20, 27 January 1979).

Animal feedingstuffs. The *Official Journal* L39, 14 February 1979, contains the text of directive 79/139/EEC amending the annexes to directive 70/524/EEC concerning additives in feedingstuffs.

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 262/79 on the sale of butter at reduced prices for use in the manufacture of pastry products, ice-cream and other foodstuffs (*Official Journal* L41, 16 February 1979).

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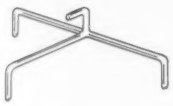
Treble panel 3 way 'tee'		
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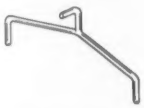
Double panel 135°		
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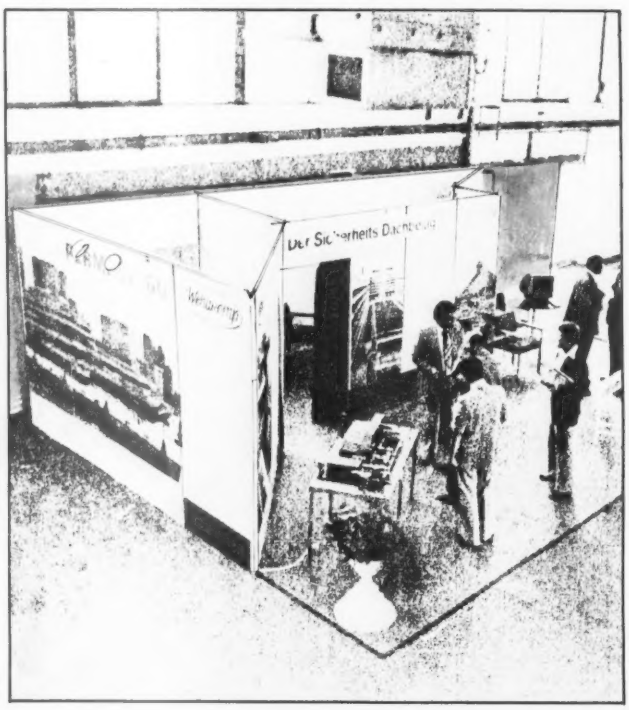

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Regulation (EEC) 263/79 amending regulations (EEC) 1687/76, (EEC) 1036/78 and (EEC) 182/79 in respect of butter sold at reduced prices for use in the manufacture of foodstuffs (*Official Journal* L41, 16 February 1979).

Harmonisation of legislation

The *Official Journal* L37, 13 February 1979, contains the text of directive 79/168/EEC amending directive 75/726/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the member states concerning fruit juices and certain similar products.

Further information: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Food Standards Division, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AE, tel. 01-216 6435.

The *Official Journal* L39, 14 February 1979, contains the text of directive 79/138/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to methods of sampling and analysis for fertilisers.

Further information: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Eagle House, 90-96 Cannon Street, London EC4, tel. 01-623 4266, ext. 276.

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L32, 8 February 1979, contains the texts of the following decisions which authorise the relevant member states to refuse entry to the specific goods. The decisions relate to varying periods; full details are set out in the relevant decisions.

Decision 79/127/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to drawn or blown glass, falling within heading ex 70.05 of the common customs tariff, originating in the USSR and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/128/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to drawn or blown glass, falling within heading ex 70.05 of the common customs tariff, originating in Hungary and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/129/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to blouses and shirt-blouses, knitted or crocheted (not elastic or rubberised) or woven, for women, girls and infants, of wool, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, falling within subheadings ex 60.05 AII and ex 61.02 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 60.05-22, 23, 24, 25; 61.02-78, 82, 84) (category 7), originating in Bulgaria and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/130/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to gloves, mittens and mitts, knitted or crocheted (not elastic or rubberised), other than those of category 10, of wool, cotton or man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 60.02 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 60.02-50, 60, 70, 80) (category 11), originating in Taiwan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/131/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to gloves, mittens and mitts, knitted or crocheted (not elastic or rubberised), impregnated or coated with artificial plastic materials, falling within heading ex 60.02 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe code 60.02-40) (category 10), originating in Taiwan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/132/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to gloves, mittens and mitts, knitted or crocheted (not elastic or rubberised), falling with heading 60.02 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 60.02-40, 50, 60, 70, 80) (categories 10 and 11), originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/133/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' shirts, woven, of wool, cotton or of man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.03 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.03-11, 15, 19) (category 8), originating in Pakistan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/134/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to woven table linen, toilet and kitchen linen other than of cotton terry fabric, falling within subheading ex 62.02 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 62.02-41, 43, 47, 65, 73, 77) (category 39), originating in the People's Republic of China and in free circulation in the other member states.

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L40, 15 February, contains the texts of the following decisions which authorise the relevant member states to refuse entry to the specific goods. The decisions relate to varying periods; full details are set out in the relevant decisions.

Decision 79/175/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to woven fabrics of jute of a width of not more than 150 cm and sacks and bags of jute, falling within subheading 57.10 A or 62.02 A of the common customs tariff, originating in Bangladesh and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/176/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to toys made of wood or other (except motors and movement mechanisms for toys and working models used for recreational purposes and parts thereof), falling within subheading 97.03 A and ex B of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/177/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to tableware and other articles of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, of porcelain and other kinds of pottery, falling within heading 69.11 or subheading 69.12 C or D of the common customs tariff, originating in the People's Republic of China and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/178/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to tableware and other articles of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, of porcelain or china or of earthenware or of other kinds of pottery, falling within heading 69.11 or subheading 19.12 C or D of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/179/EEC authorising Ireland not to apply community treatment to blouses and shirt-blouses, knitted or crocheted (not elastic or rubberised), or woven, for women, girls and infants, falling within subheading ex 60.05 AII or ex 61.02 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 60.05-22, 23, 24, 25; 61.02-78, 82, 84), originating in India and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/183/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to blouses and shirt-blouses, knitted or crocheted (not elastic or rubberised), or woven, for women, girls and infants, of wool, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, falling within subheading ex 60.05 AII or ex 61.02 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 60.05-22, 23, 24, 25; 61.02-78, 82, 84) (category 7), originating in Hungary and in free circulation in the other member states.

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L41, 16 February, contains the texts of the following decisions which authorise the relevant member states to refuse entry to the specific goods. The decisions relate to varying periods; full details are set out in the relevant decisions.

Decision 79/185/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to blouses and shirt-blouses, knitted or crocheted (not elastic or rubberised), or woven, of wool, cotton or of man-made textile fibres for women, girls and infants, falling within subheading ex 60.05 AII or ex 61.02 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 60.05-22, 23, 24, 25; 61.02-78, 82, 84) (category 7), originating in Romania and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/186/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' woven suits (including coordinate suits consisting of two or three pieces, which are ordered, packed, consigned and normally sold together) of wool, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.01 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.01-51, 54, 57) (category 16), originating in Yugoslavia and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/188/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to anti-knock preparations based on tetraethyl-lead ('ethyl-fluid'), falling within heading ex 38.14 of the common customs tariff, originating in the United States and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/191/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to receivers, whether or not incorporating sound recorders or reproducers, falling within subheading 85.15 AIII of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/192/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to certain setts, flags and paving, hearth and wall tiles, falling within subheading ex 69.07 ex A or B ex II or 69.08 ex A or B ex II of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

EEC – your questions answered

Need to know more about the EEC? Ring the EEC Information Unit on 01-215 4301 (six lines) or write to us at 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

The unit answers general inquiries about trade and industry matters in the EEC. Those small points so easily forgotten, new regulations, or complex questions concerning your business – what ever it is, the unit will either answer direct or give you a contact for specialist advice.

Here are some recent questions answered by the unit's staff.

Electrical colour codes

What are the colour codes used in the EEC to identify the cores of flexible cables on electrical equipment?

The EEC countries, together with Efta countries, comprise the Cenelec bloc (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation) which observes a standard colour code for the identification of the cores.

In two-core cables brown and light blue are used. In two-core plus earth the colours should be brown (live), light blue (neutral) and green/yellow (earth).

In three-core cables the colours should be light blue, black and brown. For three-core plus earth the colours are the same with the addition of a green/yellow core which must be used for earth. Any additional cores must be black or brown.

The green/yellow code is reserved exclusively for earth in all flexible cables. If a neutral wire is present in the circuit, light blue must be used but when a neutral wire is not present, light blue may be used to identify a phase conductor.

The UK alone has a further requirement, agreed by Cenelec, that a label must be attached to flexible cables on appliances clearly identifying this code. This label is necessary in Britain because plugs are generally fitted by the consumer. In the rest of Europe plugs are usually already fitted.

Advertising calls for tender

I understand calls for tender for public works and supplies contracts must be advertised in the EEC. Where do I send the information?

To the Office des publications officielles des communautés europiennes, 5 rue du Commerce, Boîte postale 1003, Luxembourg.

Excise duties

Why are excise duties charged on some exports to the EEC?

Excise duties are national taxes, not to be confused with customs duties. They are levied mainly on consumer durables such as alcohol, tobacco, oil and petroleum products. There is no protective element in excise duties which, under EEC rules, must apply to domestically produced items as well as to imports.

Should there be any question of discrimination, the EEC commission usually investigates.

Excise duties are a valuable source of national revenue in most countries using this method of direct taxation to increase capital, although the rates vary. For instance, the rates of excise duty on spirits may vary in the rest of Europe from the rate applied in the UK. But the rate in any one country must be the same for imports as for their own produce.

Attempts to harmonise taxes on certain products within the community have not resulted in much success so far.

Information certificates

I am exporting components to Germany and my customer is asking me to comply with EEC regulation 1908/73. What is this regulation?

Your customer in Germany is asking you to complete an information certificate (customs form C1243) because the origin of your components must be established if the finished article made by your customer is to be exported to a non-EEC country attracting preferential rates of duty.

You should complete two copies of the form and have them endorsed at the customs office of departure. One copy is retained by customs and the other should be forwarded to your client.

Details about preference procedures and rules of origin are set out in customs notices 827 and 828. Paragraph 38 of notice 827 deals specifically with information certificates. Notices 827 and 828 and form C1243 can be obtained from any collector of customs and excise.

EEC indicative ceilings for imports from Efta countries: 1979

Under the EEC-Efta free trade agreements signed between the EEC and each Efta state when the UK joined the community, duty-free trade in most industrial goods was reached on 1 July 1977. However, certain imports from Efta, which are sensitive to community industry, will remain subject to duty for a number of years. In the case of paper and board products, duty-free trade will not be reached until 1 January 1984.

A number of the sensitive items are subject to 'indicative ceilings', levels below which EEC imports from an Efta country attract a preferential or zero rate of duty (in the case of paper and board 6 per cent) but if exceeded allow the community (should it so decide) to impose full CCT duties on the product in question for the remainder of the calendar year.

Indicative ceilings are established each year and provision is made in the agreements for the levels to be raised by 5 per cent each year although they may be maintained at the previous year's level in times of short-term economic difficulties.

Should imports fail to reach 90 per cent of the ceiling level for two consecutive years, the operation of the ceiling is suspended and imports remain subject to the preferential rate only.

Indicative ceilings levels for 1979 are set out in the table by exporting country:

Order no	CCT heading no	Description	Nimexe code	Level of ceiling (tonnes)
NORWAY				
I N 1	28.56 A 48.01	Silicon Carbide Paper and paperboard (including cellulose wadding, in rolls or sheets: C. Kraft paper and kraft board: II. Other:	28.56-10	Suspended
I N 2		Kraftliner paper and board	48.01-14, 15, 21, 27, 31	20 101
I N 3		Kraft paper for large capacity sacks	48.01-16, 23, 28	Suspended
I N 4		Other	48.01-08, 09, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 25, 26, 29, 33	
		ex F. Other:		
I N 5		Bible paper, manifold (thin typing) paper; printing paper and writing paper, containing not more than 5% of mechanical wood pulp	48.01-58, 61, 62, 66	Suspended
I N 6		Printing paper and writing paper, containing more than 5% of mechanical wood pulp (a), excluding manifold (thin typing) paper	48.01-64, 65, 69	Suspended
I N 7		Semi-chemical fluting paper	48.01-75	Suspended
I N 8		Sulphite wrapping and packaging paper	48.01-71, 73	Suspended
I N 9		Other, excluding cellulose wadding and webs of cellulose fibres (soft tissues)	48.01-41, 43, 45, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 77, 82, 84, 86, 88, 91, 93, 95, 97	Suspended
I N 10	48.03	Parchment or greaseproof paper and paperboard, and imitations thereof, and glazed transparent paper, in rolls or sheets	48.03 – all nos.	Suspended
	48.07	Paper and paperboard, impregnated, coated, surface-coloured, surface-decorated or printed (not constituting printed matter within chapter 49), in rolls or sheets; C. Other;		
I N 11		Other, excluding coated printing or writing paper	48.07-55, 56, 64, 65, 66, 68, 70, 81, 85, 91, 97, 99	28 078
	73.02	Ferro-alloys;		
I N 12		A. Ferro-manganese; II. Other D. Ferro-silico-manganese	73.02-19, 40	Suspended
I N 13		C. Ferro-silicon	73.02-30	Suspended
I N 14		E. Ferro-chromium and ferro-silico-chromium	73.02-51, 55	Suspended
		G. Other:		
I N 15		Ferro-vanadium	73.02-83	Suspended
I N 16		Other, excluding ferro-molybdenum	73.02-60, 70, 98	14 740
	76.01	Unwrought aluminium; aluminium waste and scrap:		
I N 17		A. Unwrought	76.01-11, 15	251 788
I N 18	76.02	Wrought bars, rods, angles, shapes and sections, of aluminium; aluminium wire	76.02 – all nos	16 081
I N 19	76.03	Wrought plates, sheets and strip of aluminium, of a thickness not exceeding 0.20 mm	76.03 – all nos	Suspended
FINLAND				
	48.01	Paper and paperboard (including cellulose wadding), in rolls or sheets: C. Kraft paper and kraft board: II. Other:		
I SF 1		Kraftliner paper and board	48.01-14, 15, 21, 27, 31	Suspended
I SF 2		Kraft paper for large capacity sacks	48.01-16, 23, 28	Suspended
I SF 3		Other	48.01-08, 09 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 25, 26, 29, 33	Suspended
		ex F. Other;		
I SF 4		Bible paper, manifold (thin typing) paper; printing paper and writing paper, containing not more than 5% of mechanical wood pulp	48.01-58, 61, 62, 66	36 734
I SF 5		Printing paper and writing paper, containing more than 5% of mechanical wood pulp, excluding manifold (thin typing) paper	48.01-64, 65, 69	Suspended
I SF 6		Semi-chemical fluting paper	48.01-75	Suspended
I SF 7		Sulphite wrapping and packaging paper	48.01-71, 73	Suspended
I SF 8		Other, excluding cellulose wadding and webs of cellulose fibres (soft tissues)	48.01-41, 43, 45, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 77, 82, 84, 86, 88, 91, 93, 95, 97	Suspended
I SF 9	48.03	Parchment or greaseproof paper and paperboard, and imitations thereof, and glazed transparent paper, in rolls or sheets	48.03 – all nos	Suspended
	48.05	Paper and paperboard, corrugated (with or without flat surface sheets), creped, crinkled, embossed or perforated, in rolls or sheets:		
I SF 10		B. Other	48.05-21, 29, 30, 50, 80	Suspended
	48.07	Paper and paperboard, impregnated, coated, surface-coloured, surface-decorated or printed (not constituting, printed matter within Chapter 49), in rolls or sheets: C. Other;		
I SF 11		Coated printing or writing paper	48.07-57, 58, 59	50 442
I SF 12		Other	48.07-55, 56, 64, 65, 66, 68, 70, 81, 85, 91, 97, 99	200 240
	48.15	Other paper and paperboard, cut to size or shape:		
I SF 13		B. Other	48.15-10, 21, 29, 30, 40, 50, 61, 65, 95, 99	Suspended
	73.02	Ferro-alloys:		
I SF 14		E. Ferro-chromium and ferro-silico-chromium	73.02-51, 55	13 075
AUSTRIA				
	48.01	Paper and paperboard (including cellulose wadding), in rolls or sheets: C. Kraft paper and kraft board: ex II. Other;		
I A 1		Excluding kraftliner paper and kraft paper for large-capacity sacks	48.01-08, 09, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 25, 26, 29, 33	Suspended
		ex F. Other;		
I A 2		Bible paper, manifold (thin typing) paper; printing paper and writing paper, containing not more than 5% of mechanical wood pulp	48.01-58, 61, 62, 66	70 177
I A 3		Printing paper and writing paper, containing more than 5% of mechanical wood pulp, excluding manifold (thin typing) paper	48.01-64, 65, 69	62 536
	48.07	Paper and paperboard, impregnated, coated, surface-coated, surface-decorated or printed (not constituting printed matter within Chapter 49), in rolls or sheets: C. Other:		
I A 4		Coated printing or writing paper	48.07-57, 58, 59	40 194
I A 5		Other	48.07-55, 56, 64, 65, 66, 68, 70, 81, 85, 91, 97, 99	13 321
	48.15	Other paper and paperboard, cut to size or shape:		
I A 6		B. Other	48.15-10, 21, 29, 30, 40, 50, 61, 65, 95, 99	19 652

Order no	CCT heading no	Description	Nimexe code	Level of ceiling (tonnes)
	73.02	Ferro-alloys; ex G. Other:		
I A 7		Ferro-molybdenum	73.02-81	324
	73.15	Alloy steel and high-carbon steel in the forms mentioned in headings nos 73.06 to 73.14: B. Alloy steel;		
I A 8		High-speed	73.71-14, 24, 54, 94 73.73-14, 24, 34, 54 73.74-54 73.75-24, 34, 44, 54, 64, 84 73.76-14	4 287 [1]
I A 9		Other	73.71-19, 21, 29, 55, 56, 59, 99 73.72-11, 19, 39 73.73-19, 25, 26, 29, 35, 36, 39, 49, 55, 59, 72, 74, 89 73.74-21, 29, 51, 52, 59, 72, 74, 89, 90 73.75-11, 19, 29, 39, 49, 59, 69, 79, 89, 99 73.76-15, 16, 19	65 373 [1]
PORTUGAL				
I P 1	45.02	Natural cork in blocks, plates, sheets or strips (including cubes or square slabs, cut to size for corks or stoppers)	45.02 – all nos	Suspended
I P 2	45.03	Articles of natural cork	45.03 – all nos	Suspended
I P 3	55.05	Cotton yarn, not put up for retail sale	55.05 – all nos	11 311
I P 4	56.07	Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste)	56.07 – all nos	3 202
I P 5	59.04	Twine, cordage, ropes and cables, plaited or not	59.04 – all nos	11 324
I P 6	60.04	Under garments, knitted or crocheted, not elastic or rubberised	60.04 – all nos	Suspended
I P 7	60.05	Outer garments and other articles, knitted or crocheted, not elastic or rubberised	60.05 – all nos	975
I P 8	61.01	Men's and boys' outer garments	61.01 – all nos	1 224
I P 9	61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments	61.02 – all nos	373
I P 10	61.03	Men's and boys' under garments, including collars, shirt fronts and cuffs	61.03 – all nos	Suspended
I P 11	61.04	Women's, girls' and infants' under garments	61.04 – all nos	Suspended
SWEDEN				
	48.01	Paper and paperboard (including cellulose wadding), in rolls or sheets: C. Kraft paper and kraft board: II. Other;		
I S 1		Kraftliner paper and board	48.01-14, 15, 21, 27, 31	464 088
I S 2		Kraft paper for large capacity bags	48.01-16, 23, 28	Suspended
I S 3		Other	48.01-08, 09, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 25, 26, 29, 33	Suspended
		ex F. Other;		
I S 4		Bible paper manifold (thin typing) paper; printing paper and writing paper, containing not more than 5% of mechanical wood pulp	48.01-58, 61, 62, 66	33 927
I S 5		Printing paper and writing paper, containing more than 5% of mechanical wood pulp, excluding manifold (thin typing) paper	48.01-64, 65, 69	144 209
I S 6		Semi-chemical fluting paper for corrugated paperboard	48.01-75	Suspended
I S 7		Other, excluding cellulose wadding and webs of cellulose fibres (soft tissues)	48.01-41, 43, 45, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 77, 82, 84, 86, 88, 91, 93, 95, 97	Suspended
I S 8	48.04	Composite paper or paperboard (made by sticking flat layers together with an adhesive), not surface-coated or impregnated, whether or not internally reinforced, in rolls or sheets	48.04 – all nos	Suspended
	48.05	Paper and paperboard, corrugated (with or without flat surface sheets), creped, crinkled, embossed or perforated, in rolls or sheets:		
I S 9		B. Other	48.05-21, 29, 30, 50, 80	53 896
	48.07	Paper and paperboard, impregnated, coated, surface coloured, surface-decorated or printed (not constituting printed matter within Chapter 49), in rolls or sheet: C. Other;		
I S 10		Coated printing or writing paper	48.07-57, 58, 59	45 050
I S 11		Other	48.07-55, 56, 64, 65, 66, 68, 70, 81, 85, 91, 97, 99	123 006
	48.15	Other paper and paperboard, cut to size size or shape:		
I S 12		B. Other	48.15-10, 21, 29, 30, 40, 50, 61, 65, 95, 99	13 906
	48.16	Boxes, bag and other packing containers, of paper or paperboard; box files, letter trays and similar articles, of paper or paperboard, of a kind commonly used in offices, shops and the like:		
I S 13		A. Boxes, bags and other packing containers	48.16-10, 91, 95, 96, 98	Suspended
	48.21	Other articles of paper pulp, paper, paperboard or cellulose wadding:		
I S 14		B. Napkins and napkinliners, for babies, put up for retail sale	48.21-11	15 258
		D. Other	48.21-15, 21, 25, 31, 33, 37, 40, 50, 60, 70, 99	
	73.02	Ferro-alloys;		
I S 15		E. Ferro-chromium and ferro-silico-chromium	73.02-51, 55	24 386
		G. Other:		
I S 16		Ferro-molybdenum	73.02-81	Suspended
	73.15	Alloy steel and high carbon steel in the forms mentioned in heading nos 73.06 to 73.14: B. Alloy steel:		
I S 17		Stainless or refractory	73.71-13, 23, 53, 93 73.72-13, 33 73.73-13, 23, 33, 43, 53, 83 73.74-23, 53, 83 73.75-23, 33, 43, 53, 63, 73 83, 93 73.76-13	Suspended
I S 18		High speed	73.71-14, 24, 54, 94 73.73-14, 24, 34, 54 73.74-54 73.75-24, 34, 44, 54, 64, 84 73.76-14	Suspended
I S 19		Other	73.71-19, 21 29, 55, 56, 59, 99 73.72-11, 19, 39 73.73-19, 25, 26, 29, 35, 36, 39, 49, 55, 59, 72, 74, 89 73.74-21, 29, 51, 52, 59, 72, 74, 89, 90 73.75-11, 19, 29, 39, 49, 59, 69, 79, 89, 99 73.76-15, 16, 19	92 213 [1]
	73.18	Tubes and pipes and blanks therefor, of iron (other than of cast iron) or steel, excluding high-pressure hydro-electric conduits; ex C. Other;		
I S 20		Tubes and pipes, of stainless or refractory steel	73.18-44, 51, 66, 76	Suspended
	81.04	Other base metals, unwrought or wrought, and articles thereof; cermers, unwrought or wrought, and articles thereof; K. Titanium:		
I S 21		II. Other	81.04-58	51

[1] Including products covered by the ECSC treaty.

New guide published

The EEC Information Unit has published a new edition of *EEC – Your Questions Answered*. It contains much new material and will help all those needing to know how EEC policies and legislation can affect day-to-day business activities and forward planning.

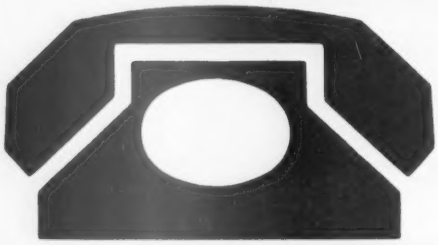
Free copies are available from : EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, 01-215 5377 or 3579

OTAR: help for exporters

Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757) can give you directly, or through your regional office, up-to-date information on the tariffs and customs regulations of overseas countries, import licensing regulations and restrictions including import quotas; certificate of origin; consular invoices and fees; labelling and marking requirements; foodstuffs, drugs and pharmaceuticals; agency legislation; setting up of a subsidiary company; and the import of samples. It also provides information, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on health regulations for livestocks meat, animal products and plants and seeds. In short, OTAR can help on almost all legislation which affects the entry of British goods into overseas countries.

Inquiries which concern the countries of more than one sub-section (excluding inquiries involving only EEC countries) should be made to OTAR's co-ordination sub-section on 01-248 5757 extension 452 or 454.

For information on specific countries, phone the number and extension given below



01-248 5757

extension

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1 Co-ordination of EEC regulations, requirements and common customs tariff (CCT), Denmark, France incl. overseas territories, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus

408 Denmark (incl. Faroe Islands and Greenland). EEC legislation on tariff and non-tariff barriers relative to community trade

423 France and French overseas departments, French overseas territories, Comoros

439 Greece (incl. Dodecanese Islands), Turkey, Cyprus

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288 Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, St Eustatius, St Martin (Dutch), Saba, Suriname

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Africa

462 Algeria, Ceuta and Melilla, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Western Sahara

471 Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Jibuti (Djibouti), Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Rwanda, St Helena and Tristan da Cunha and Ascension Islands, Sao Tome/Principe, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa (with Botswana, Lesotho, SW Africa, Namibia and Swaziland), Zambia, British Indian Ocean Territory

472 Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Empire, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Upper Volta, Zaire

473 The Gambia, Liberia, Nigeria, Rhodesia, Sierra Leone

Sub-section E

Australasia and south-east Asia, eastern bloc, China, Mongolia, Yugoslavia

401 New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, W. Samoa, Chatham Islands, Cook Islands, Niue Islands, Tokelau Islands, Philippines

468 Australia, Solomon Islands, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island (Indian Ocean), Nauru, New Hebrides, Papua New Guinea, Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, USSR, China, Mongolia, Yugoslavia

469 Brunei, Fiji, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Tonga, Gilbert Islands (incl. Ocean Island, Phoenix and Northern Line Islands), Tuvalu, Norfolk Island, Pitcairn Island

Sub-section F

Middle East (part) and Asia (part)

420 Afghanistan, Burma, India, Pakistan, Japan, Korea Democratic Peoples Republic, Korea Republic of, Taiwan, Yemen Arab Republic, Yemen Peoples Democratic Republic

475 Iraq, Kampuchea (formerly Cambodia), Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Vietnam Socialist Republic of, Bahrain, Iran, Oman, Qatar, Syria, United Arab Emirates

7062 Bangladesh, Jordan, Maldives, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka

Overseas trade news

PM to meet Japanese buying mission

Prime Minister James Callaghan is to meet members of the largest Japanese trade mission to visit Britain on 5 March. The mission – with over 100 members – began its UK tour on 25 February and the Prime Minister will meet its members on 5 March, the day before the mission ends.

The mission is looking for British goods for the Japanese market with the intentions of purchasing and offering advice on trading in Japan and on supplying equipment for third-country projects.

The British Overseas Trade Board is the host to the mission, which is organised and sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

Strengthened links

Welcoming the mission, Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, said that he hoped that orders for British consumer goods would be signed during the visit. He emphasised the important role which Japanese investment could play in Britain by strengthening economic links between the two countries. He stressed that more Japanese companies should seriously consider the many advantages of Britain as a manufacturing base.

Sir Frederick said British exports to Japan had expanded considerably over the past two years and the UK's performance had been as good – if not better – than most industrial countries.

The mission is led by Mr T. Matsuo, president of Marubeni Corporation, one of the largest Japanese general trading companies. The mission is divided into five main groups: a leader's group under Mr Matsuo; a foodstuffs and consumers goods group under Mr S. Okada, president of Mitsukoshi Ltd; a textile and clothing group under Mr T. Hotta, senior director of C. Itoh; a machinery group, including general machinery, agricultural machinery, electronics and medical equipment, under Mr M. Ariga, president of Mitsui (Europe); and an inward investment group under Mr H. Matsunaga, managing director, Bank of Tokyo.

The groups have separate programmes, including visits to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as well as to Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle, Yorkshire, the East Midlands, west country and East Anglia.

Group meetings

The leader's group will meet the Secretary of State for Trade, John Smith; the Minister of State at the Department of Industry, Alan Williams; the Minister of State at the Scottish Office, Gregory MacKenzie; the Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office, Don Concannon; the opposition front bench spokesman for trade, John Nott; and the TUC.

Specially arranged sample shows, where some 300 British companies will exhibit their goods, are being arranged for the consumer goods and textile group which includes buyers from Mitsukoshi – Japan's largest department store – who will be looking for products for the store's autumn promotion of British goods. This major nationwide promotion, which will be supported by the British Overseas Trade Board, will be Mitsukoshi's largest in a series of biennial British promotions going back to the 1960s.

Members of the machinery group will follow separate specialist programmes and visit British firms making general machinery and engineering products together with companies making electronic components, agricultural and medical equipment.

The inward investment group will travel to development areas throughout the UK and meet investors from overseas including several Japanese companies already manufacturing in Britain.

Mr T. Matsuo.

Britain lifts Bolivian aid project suspension

Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, has lifted the suspension of a large-scale aid project to Bolivia providing British equipment for the country's mining sector.

Answering a parliamentary question on 21 February she said that because of the changed situation in Bolivia she had concluded that the considerations no longer applied which led to the suspension of ODM's support for the re-equipment programme of Comibol – Bolivia's state mining corporation.

Subject to agreement with the Bolivian government, 'I propose to send a small investigatory mission to Bolivia to advise me on the ways in which I could now best assist this important sector of the Bolivian economy taking into particular account the welfare of the Volivian miners,' she said.

Seminar on developments in export methods

A seminar intended to up date the knowledge of export course leaders and tutors is being organised by the Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board (Sitpro) on 5 April.

To be held at the College for the Distributive Trades from 10.30 to 16.30 hours, the course is intended to inform delegates of new developments in export documentations and administration.

Sitpro is keen to obtain feedback from course leaders. Ample time will therefore be given for discussions.

Details can be obtained from Mr R. J. Cowne, College for the Distributive Trades, 30 Leicester Square London WC2H 7LE, tel. 01-839 1547.

Hints to exporters booklets

Revised editions of the 'Hints to exporters' booklets on Guatemala and Kuwait have been published.

British exporters can order these booklets by post, accompanied by the appropriate remittance, from the Department of Trade, Publications Sales Unit, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU at £1 per copy, plus postage and packing as follows: one copy 20p, two to four copies 30p, five to seven copies 40p, more than seven post free.

Copies may also be purchased by personal callers at Export House and at the offices of the Department of Industry at Newcastle upon Tyne, Cockermouth, Manchester, Leeds, Nottingham, Birmingham, Bristol; from the Scottish and Welsh Offices and from the Department of Commerce Belfast.

'Beefier' Land-Rover for export only

For export only – a new 'beefier' range of Land-Rovers. The range using the powerful, 3.5-litre V8 engine of the Range Rover, was launched by Land-Rover on 27 February. Deliveries to Europe now will be followed up by sales in Middle East and other overseas markets later this year. Detailed style changes will, says Land-Rover, give a 'beefier' look to the traditional Land-Rover shape.

Ilea shows educational equipment in Tokyo

Displays of educational materials produced by the Inner London Education Authority (Ilea) were a feature of a big British educational equipment exhibition at the British Export Marketing Centre, Tokyo.

Ilea was the only local education authority among the 17 participants in the exhibition held from 20 to 25 February. Three Ilea experts gave seven of the nine seminars organised to coincide with the exhibition.

The three were: Leslie Ryder, Ilea's director of learning resources, Michael Raggett, publishing co-ordinator, and Vincent Thompson, head of the authority's resources support group. Their visit was under the sponsorship of the British Overseas Trade Board and the British Educational Equipment Association, joint organisers of the Tokyo exhibition.

Exeter chamber strengthens Euro ties

Exeter and District Chamber of Commerce and Trade is organising an exhibition on behalf of the city of Exeter at the international fair to be held in its twin city, Rennes, from 29 April to 6 May. Later in the year, from 14 to 24 September, the chamber will organise the Devon exhibit at the regional fair in Caen, Normandy.

At home, meanwhile, the chamber is planning a shell stand scheme covering over 10 000 sq ft at Exefair '79, to be held on the University of Exeter campus from 22 to 25 August. Exeter's twin cities, Rennes and Bad Homburg, have been invited to take part as well as Caen and the Belgium province of Hainault.

Companies interested in taking part in Exefair '79 can obtain more information from the secretary of the Exeter Chamber, John Hunter, at Coombe House, Coombe Street, Exeter EX1 1DB, tel. Exeter 36641.

Export control on antiques and collectors' items extended

Under the terms of the Export of Goods (Control) Amendment No. 2) Order 1979 (SI 1979/164) made by the Secretary of State for Trade on 19 February and effective from 19 March, certain changes are made to the control to all destinations of exportations of antiques (articles over 100 years old), collectors' items, etc, in order to restrict further the exportation of items of importance to the UK national heritage.

The age above which items become subject to control in this context is being reduced as follows:

Years

	From	To
Documents, manuscripts and archives	70	50
Photographic positives and negatives valued at £200 or more each	70	60
All other items	100	50

These changes stem from recommendations of the reviewing committee on the export of works of art which have been accepted by the Minister for the Arts. As before, there are exceptions to the control for postage stamps and other articles of philatelic interest, documents relating to the personal affairs of the exporter or the spouse of the exporter, letters or other writings, written by or to the exporter or the spouse of the exporter and a new exception for goods exported by, and being the personal property of, the manufacturer or producer thereof, or the spouse, widow or widower of that person. Control is removed from exportations of any photographic positive or negative valued at less than £200, except for exports to Rhodesia.

As a consequence of these changes, the Secretary of State has also granted new Open General Export Licences, the texts of which are published below, as follows:

a Antiques, collectors' items, etc.
b Printed matter and documentary material to southern Rhodesia,
c Aircraft and helicopters,
d Aircraft engines and aircraft parts, and
e Aircraft parts (electric and electronic).

The corresponding existing Open General Export Licences dated 1 June 1978 (see *Trade and Industry* of 9 June 1978, page 541) are revoked with effect from 19 March 1979.

Copies of the Export of Goods (Control) (Amendment No. 2) Order 1979 (SI 1979/164) will shortly be available from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB, and branches, or by post from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

Copies of the new Open General Export Licences may be obtained free of charge on written application to Export Licensing Branch, Department of Trade, Sanctuary Buildings, 16-20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB, to which all inquiries about the control should be addressed.

Antiques, collectors' items, etc

Open General Export Licence dated 19 February 1979 granted by the Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State, in excise of powers conferred by Article 3 of the Export of Goods (Control) Order 1978 [1], hereby grants an Open General Export Licence authorising the exportation from the United Kingdom to any destination, other than to any destination in Southern Rhodesia, of any goods manufactured or produced more than 50 years before the date of exportation the value of which, as required by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise to be declared, is less than £8,000, falling within the second entry in Group B of Part I of Schedule 1 to the said Order except:

i diamonds (including synthetic or reconstructed diamonds), unworked, cut or otherwise worked, but not mounted, set or strung (except ungraded stones temporarily strung for convenience of transport);

ii documents, manuscripts and archives, not being printed books, printed pamphlets or similar printed matter, newspapers, periodicals or magazines;

iii articles which have been recovered at any time from the soil of the United Kingdom or from the bed of any lake, river, stream, or other area of water therein or from the bed of the sea within the territorial waters of the United Kingdom other than:

a coin, or

b any article recovered only after burial or concealment at a date less than 50 years before the date of exportation:

iv any goods (other than diamonds) falling with a description in Group A of Part I or in Part II of Schedule 1 to the said Order, manufactured or produced more than 50 years but not more than 100 years before the date of exportation.

The Secretary of State in exercise of his powers under Article 8 of the said Order hereby revokes the Open General Export Licence relating to antiques granted by him on 1 June 1978.

This licence shall come into operation on 19 March 1979.

[1] SI 1978/796.

Printed matter and documentary material to Southern Rhodesia

Open General Export Licence dated 19 February 1979 granted by the Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State, in exercise of powers conferred by Articles 4 and 17 of the Southern Rhodesia (United Nations Sanctions) (No. 2) Order 1968 [1] and by Articles 3 and 8 of the Export of Goods (Control) Order 1978 [2], hereby grants an Open General Export Licence authorising the exportation from the United Kingdom to any destination in Southern Rhodesia of the following goods:

1 printed books, printed pamphlets and similar printed matter, produced not more than 50 years before the date of exportation;

2 newspapers, periodicals and magazines, produced not more than 50 years before the date of exportation;

3 birth, marriage or death certificates or other documents relating to the personal affairs of the exporter or the spouse of the exporter;

4 letters or other writings written by or to the exporter or the spouse of the exporter; and

5 any other documents, manuscripts and archives, produced not more than 50 years before the date of exportation.

The Secretary of State hereby revokes the Open General Export Licence relating to printed matter and documentary material for export to Southern Rhodesia granted by him on 1 June 1978.

This licence shall come into operation on 19 March 1979.

[1] SI 1968/1020.
[2] SI 1978/796.

Aircraft and helicopters

Open General Export Licence dated 19 February 1979 granted by the Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State, in exercise of powers conferred by Article 3 of the Export of Goods (Control) Order 1978 [1], hereby grants an Open General Export Licence authorising the exportation from the United Kingdom to any destination, except a destination in any country named in the Schedule hereto, of the following goods, other than goods manufactured or produced more than 50 years before the date of exportation the value of which, as required by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise to be declared, is £8,000 or more, falling within the description set out in head 3 of the entry relating to aircraft assembled or dismantled, aircraft engines and parts and components of aircraft and aircraft engines in Group 1 of Part II of Schedule 1 to the said Order namely:

a Aircraft and helicopters other than:
  i aircraft and helicopters, of the piloted or pilotless type, specially designed or adapted for military purposes,
  ii other helicopters over 4530 kg empty weight, having a maximum all-up weight of 680 kg or more and incorporating or equipped with equipment specified in the entries in Group 3 relating to communication, navigation, direction-finding and radar equipment, or to compasses and gyroscopic apparatus.

b Aircraft, which are operated by a company whose registered office is situated in the United Kingdom and which are being temporarily exported from the United Kingdom in the normal course of business for use in civil aerial survey work, incorporating or equipped with the following cameras falling within the description set out in the entry in Group 1 relating to photographic instruments and appliances namely cameras of the kinds specially designed for aerial survey or reconnaissance.

The Secretary of State in exercise of his powers under Article 8 of the said Order hereby revokes the Open General Export Licence relating to aircraft and helicopters granted by him on 1 June 1978.

This licence shall come into operation on 19 March 1979.

Schedule

Countries to which exports are not permitted by the licence: Albania, Angola, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Democratic Kampuchea, North Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, People's Republic of Mongolia, Namibia, Poland, Romania, Republic of South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Taiwan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

[1] SI 1978/796.

Aircraft engines and aircraft parts

Open General Export Licence dated 19 February 1979 granted by the Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State, in exercise of powers conferred by Article 3 of the Export of Goods (Control) Order 1978 [1], hereby grants an Open General Export Licence authorising the exportation from the United Kingdom to any destination, except a destination in any country named in the Schedule hereto, of the following goods, other than goods manufactured or produced more than 50 years before the date of exploration the value of which, as required by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise to be declared, is £8,000 or more, falling within the descriptions set out in head 5 and 6 of the entry relating to aircraft, assembled or dismantled, aircraft engines and parts and components of aircraft and aircraft engines in Group 1 of Part II of Schedule 1 to the said Order namely:

a Aircraft engines, but not helicopter engines, other than:
  i engines specially designed for military purposes,
  ii jet engines of any size,
  iii turbo prop engines of 1864 kW (2500 SHP) or more with a residual thrust of 453 kg (1000 lbs) or more;

b Specialised parts and components of aircraft, helicopters or aircraft engines and helicopter engines specified in heads 1 to 5 other than parts or components falling within a description set out elsewhere in Group 1 or in Group 3 of Part II of Schedule 1.

The Secretary of State in exercise of his powers under Article 8 of the said Order hereby revokes the Open General Export Licence relating to aircraft engines and aircraft parts granted by him on 1 June 1978.

This licence shall come into operation on 19 March 1979.

Schedule

Countries to which exports are not permitted by the licence: Albania, Angola, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Democratic Kampuchea, North Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, People's Republic of Mongolia, Namibia, Poland, Romania, Republic of South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Taiwan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

[1] SI 1978/796.

Aircraft parts (electric and electronic)

Open General Export Licence dated 19 February 1979 granted by the Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State, in exercise of powers conferred by Article 3 of the Export of Goods (Control) Order 1978 [1], hereby grants an Open General Export Licence authorising the exportation from the United Kingdom to any destination in any country named or included in a country named in Schedule 2 to the said Order, other than Malawi, Namibia or the Republic of South Africa, of the following goods, other than goods manufactured or produced more than 50 years before the date of exportation the value of which, as required by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise to be declared, is £8,000 or more, namely:

Specialised parts and components designed for use on or in arcraft being parts or components falling within a description set out in Group 3 of Part II of Schedule 1 to the said Order and indicated therein by the letter C.

In determining, for the purpose of this licence, whether goods fall within a description set out in Schedule 1 to the said Order and indicated therein by the letter C no account shall be taken of Article 7 of the Order (which deals with overlapping descriptions).

The Secretary of State in exercise of his powers under Article 8 of the said Order hereby revokes the Open General Export Licence relating to aircraft parts (electric and electronic) granted by him on 1 June 1978.

This licence shall come into operation on 19 March 1979.

[1] SI 1978/796.

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1731: imports of certain track suits from Taiwan

As already announced, the EEC has imposed a restriction on imports into the UK of certain knitted or crocheted track suits falling within tariff heading 60.05 and originating in Taiwan. The track suits affected and the quota established for 1979 are as follows:

Category/Tariff heading/Description of goods	1979 quota
73/ex 60.05 Knitted or crocheted track suits, of cotton, or man-made textile fibres, of wool or fine animal hair, *other than those of textile fabrics, impregnated, or covered or coated on one side, with artificial plastic material and other than babies' garments and garments for girls up to and including commercial size 86*	150 000 pieces

Imports of these track suits from Taiwan were already subject to UK surveillance licensing. Current surveillance licences issued under these arrangements were revoked with effect from 27 February 1979.

Licensing arrangements

The Taiwan Textile Federation will administer the quota by issuing to exporters export certificates endorsed to the effect that the consignments have been debited against the agreed ceiling for exports to the UK. These certificates should be submitted by UK importers, in support of a completed form ILB/A, to Import Licensing Branch, which will issue import licences up to the quota limit.

Goods in transit

All imports effected since 1 January 1979 will count against the quota. The Taiwan Textile Federation will issue duly endorsed export certificates for these newly restricted goods for consignments exported from Taiwan on or after 27 February 1979. Goods in transit to the UK on or before 26 February will be licensed without the requirement for an export certificate to be produced, provided that satisfactory evidence (ie bill of lading on air way bill) of the date of shipment of the goods is supplied to Import Licensing Branch in support of a completed form ILB/A; applications in respect of such goods should be sent to reach Import Licensing Branch not later than 16 March 1979.

Imports for re-export

Imports of restricted textiles will not be set off against the quotas if they are re-exported in the same state or after limited processing.

The general import licensing arrangements for restricted textiles re-exported from the UK are set out in NTI 1441.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 301 or 311.

Overseas trade exhibitions

Nuremburg toy fair proves to be best ever

From Charles Pattinson, British consulate-general, Munich.

'Best ever', was the verdict at the end of the thirtieth international Nuremberg toy fair. Records were broken in all sections of this eight-day fair, opened on 1 February by Franz Joseph Strauss.

Nearly 1700 exhibitors showed their products to 33 886 trade visitors, both figures being a considerable improvement over 1978. Over 10 000 of the visitors came from abroad – from 84 countries.

Two trends were apparent at the fair. The first was a marked movement towards even higher quality and better presentation. The second was the strict observance of safety regulations which are becoming more stringent each year. Despite all this price increases were, in general, very modest, averaging about 3 per cent throughout the fair.

Another noticeable trend was towards even more electronics in toys and games. These products are at the top end of the price range and are aimed partly at adults. Most innovations in this sector are coming from the other side of the world, and European manufacturers have reservations about the increasing use of electronics in toys for younger children, such as electronic cash registers. They consider that the 'play value' is being devalued.

Of the 1697 exhibitors at the fair, 697 came from outside Germany and the two strongest foreign contingents by far came from Britain and Italy with 119 and 129 exhibitors respectively. The next largest foreign group came from Spain with 57 exhibitors.

The 119-strong British contingent was the largest UK participation ever at this fair and not only reflects the strength of the industry but also its awareness of the export potential that major trade fairs offer.

Fifty-nine of the British firms at the fair took part in a joint venture sponsored by the British Toy and Hobby Manufacturers' Association and the British Overseas Trade Board.

The joint venture covered all aspects of the British toy industry ranging from large working model steam engines at one end of the scale to rag books at the other. While the results achieved at the fair varied from one company to another, the general feeling on the last day was that participation had been well worthwhile and most firms reported a steady stream of orders.

All firms who were asked, said that they intended to exhibit at next year's fair in Nuremberg which will take place from 2 to 8 February 1980.

British housewares shown at three Cologne fairs

Mr P. Pearson (right), export manager of Rima Electric Ltd, demonstrates an airfan to a German visitor at a Cologne trade fair. More than 100 companies exhibited with the backing of the British Overseas Trade Board at this and two other trade fairs in the field of hardware, household apparatus and electrical appliances held in Cologne during 7 to 13 February.

Healthy British presence at Normedex '79

From L. J. Taylor, British embassy, Norway

Britain was the largest exhibitor and the only country with a national stand at Normedex '79, Norway's major medical exhibition, held in Oslo from 13 to 17 February. The joint venture was organised by the British Health-Care Export Council and the British Overseas Trade Board.

This event, the second organised by KFS (the purchasing agency of the Norwegian counties and municipalities), brought together 146 exhibitors and the products of 445 manufacturers from 22 countries. Most of the exhibitors were from Norway, but other countries represented were Sweden, West Germany, Denmark, Finland, Poland, the Netherlands, and Austria.

The joint venture displayed a diverse range of products, from high-technology electrophysiological equipment to bandages and disposables. Such a display was essential to cover the wide interest of the medical and nursing professions visiting the exhibition but made it difficult for the exhibitors to assess immediately the full benefit of their participation. But the majority were well pleased with the results and business achieved and expressed their intention to return for the next event planned for June 1981.

But what success is there to report? A manufacturer of rehabilitation equipment had received a four figure order by the second day from a Finnish visitor. Another exhibitor offering portable resuscitation equipment hoped to provide equipment to a large manufacturer of ambulances.

A company exhibiting high-quality hospital and ward furnishings had been able to assess the market potential and enter into a distributorship arrangement for its products with a leading Norwegian firm in the hospital supplies sector. Yet another exhibitor was delighted with the response to the firm's sterilisable paper products; the company had received visitors from all the major hospitals in Norway and from Denmark, Sweden and Finland.

Keen interest had been shown in a mechanical hoist displayed by a company offering wheelchairs and rehabilitation equipment. As a result, many orders had been directed to its agent. A patient transfer system offered by a leading manufacturer of specialised hospital beds and other health-care equipment aroused

a great deal of interest.

A company offering rubber, latex and plastic health-care products was able to assess the market and discover openings for other items in its range. The firm hope to double its sales in Norway over the next year.

In addition to the 17 manufacturing companies on the stand, the British Health-Care Export Council manned an information stand to answer inquiries on behalf of British firms not represented in the exhibit. A further 42 British firms were represented at Normedex either in their own right or through their agents.

Britain's boats hold their own at Gothenburg

From Thomas Abraham, British consulate-general, Gothenburg

In spite of fierce competition from sunny winter sports weekends at the beginning and end of the boat show, and the Swedish economy still being on the mend, the twentieth international Gothenburg boat show was exceptionally successful.

The rush for exhibition space last year was unequalled and the show was completely sold out by the summer.

According to the organisers not even twice the amount of exhibition space available would have satisfied the applicants.

Results were also above the wildest expectations, some of the leading Swedish boat builders reporting sales over £2 million each. It should be remembered, however, that they were greatly helped by the new credit facilities extended to its members by the Swedish Boat Builders' Federation.

British exhibitors, in addition to the difficulties caused by the transport strike, faced heavy odds this year. But they persevered, and did extremely well under the circumstances. Crowds visiting their stands cast critical and knowledgeable eyes over motor boats and cabin cruisers such as those exhibited by Marine Project, Shetlands and Fletcher Boats.

Several serious inquiries were received for the large Princess cabin cruisers, and the Leisure sail boats exhibited by Cobramold. The Avon inflatables have always been popular exhibits and the company's order books benefited from its display at Gothenburg.

The Ship and Boat Builders' National Federation sponsored a joint venture of 18 companies in conjunction with the British Overseas Trade Board. The joint-venture stand was divided into separate boat and accessories sections to conform with the rest of the exhibition. On the ground floor, where headroom was limited, were the smaller sail and power boats, and rubber dinghies. A few large boats in full sail were at the end of this stand which bordered into one of the main halls. In the equipment and accessories section J. G. Meakes was particularly successful with its diesel engines. Great success was also achieved by Self Changing Gears Ltd, Munster Simms Engineering and RWO Marine Equipment. Two other stands received numerous inquiries for sailing holidays in Greece, and leisure clothing for the sea.

The Gothenburg show with 666 exhibitors from 22 countries filled every available indoor space and outside in the yard were large boats and houseboats. Over 400 boats, of which 150 sail boats, from 13 countries were lined up interspersed by about 550 marine engines and all types of equipment for a market in which about £230 million is spent annually.

About 110 000 visitors reflected the widespread interest in water sports and crafts in Sweden. But important as the Scandinavian market is for us, it should be remembered that local competition is very strong indeed. Swedish-made boats dominated, followed by Norwegian craft. Britain tied for third position with Finland. British boats have acquired a good reputation in this market, and it is important for British exhibitors to be back in force at the floating boat exhibitions in the autumn and at one of the main events next year.

British impress at Ashrae Philadelphia show

From Peter Manning-Smith, British consulate-general, Philadelphia

Nine British companies took part in what was considered to be the largest industrial exhibition to be held in Philadelphia since the city expanded its trade show facilities.

They were in a joint venture sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning Manufacturers Association. The exhibition, organised by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers (Ashrae) in association with the Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute (ARI), was held from 28 January to 1 February.

Billed as the biggest ever Ashrae event, there were more than 550 displays, which attracted about 23 000 visitors.

British products exhibited ranged from a Netaheat natural-gas fired, wall-hung boiler, a product unique in its class, displayed by Potterton International, to a variety of varofoil, aerofoil and belt driven fans from Woods of Colchester. Satchwell Sunvic displayed a direct burner ignition system for domestic gas boilers at a most opportune time with a trend in the United States to eliminate gas pilot lights, already banned in eight states. The firm also attracted interest with its electronic programmer for central heating and hot-water control. Another novel feature was a split system for room air-conditioning by Marston-Paxman.

Radiation-Ascot Ltd also provided an example of a British wall-mounted gas central heating boiler with its Radiation Fuelsaver. Other exhibits included switches, thermostats, solenoid valves, thermometers, flow control devices, air measuring and recording instruments.

Another good example of British technology was the vertical range of air-conditioning units and down-flow computer units from Airedale Air Conditioning.

These displays were important in conjunction with changes taking place in the comfort aspects of United States construction. With natural gas more available, demand may deflect from electric heat, particularly heat pumps. Continuing uncertainties are anticipated as the United States moves closer to a national energy policy and new standards within the industry for comfort heating-cooling equipment.

While the level of orders at Ashrae was relatively low, British exhibitors were extremely pleased with the quality and quantity of potential customers and the high initial acceptance of certain innovatory products.

Many will wish to repeat their displays at the 1980 Ashrae show in Los Angeles.

UK businessmen going overseas

British businessmen intending to travel overseas are urged in their own interests to make the earliest possible contact, before going abroad, with the Export Services and Promotions Division of the Department of Trade (at the appropriate regional office for firms outside London, and Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU for firms in London and south-east England). The department, in co-operation with commercial officers at embassies, high commissions and consulates overseas, is in a position to provide advice when it is required, and to help, where appropriate, in making trade contacts related to the purpose of the visit. Even where a businessman does not require specific assistance it is valuable for him to meet the commercial officers to get up-to-date information about the market. The Department of Trade would therefore welcome receiving notification of any businessmen intending to travel overseas.

To enable the overseas commercial officers to be of the greatest assistance to UK visitors the department needs to be able to brief the overseas officers as fully as possible.

Attendance at Asian marine show disappoints

From Alan Ingle, British high commission, Singapore

Seventeen British companies, sponsored by the British Marine Equipment Council (BMEC) and the British Overseas Trade Board, took part in a joint venture at the first international Asia marine exhibition held in Singapore from 6 to 9 February.

This was the first time a composite industry display had been mounted under the auspices of the BMEC. A wide range of British equipment was displayed.

Exhibits included rope blocks and ancillary equipment, compressed-air equipment, ships' logs, cargo access equipment, marine electronics, gear boxes, sewage treatment systems, marine hovercraft, hydraulic and pneumatic systems, communication and navigation systems, galley equipment, generators and window wipers.

There were few visitors from overseas and the overall attendance was disappointing. In spite of this and the strong competition from national stands by Norway, Holland, Denmark and Finland, most of the British firms taking part reported useful business and thought that participation had been worthwhile. Ansell Jones secured firm orders for lifting equipment worth £8,000, and several firms received promising inquiries for the future.

Overseas trade export services

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Anchor adds to west African service

Containers and conventional cargo can now be carried by Anchor Global Transport on its Nigerian ro-ro service. The service will make regular calls at Abidjan.

Anchor has been running its trailer groupage service to Apapa since 1976. Operating with its own agents in Lagos, Trianon Shipping and Chartering, the company has its own bonded terminal outside the port which provides high security and rapid clearance.

Non-ro-ro conventional cargo will be accepted at break-bulk rates, but Anchor will put it together and handle as a load on load off (lo-lo) operation on the ro-ro ferries to take advantage of the rapid discharge and turn around times. In Apapa, trailers will be positioned to take all lo-lo cargo from ship's side to bonded terminal immediately.

Sailings from Felixstowe are once every two weeks. Anchor operates receiving depots in Birmingham, Bradford, Felixstowe, Glasgow, London and Manchester, or will collect from any point.

Further information: circle 335

European hydraulic surveys published

A series of reports is produced by Industrial Market Research, a London-based research consultancy, for exporters of hydraulic equipment to Europe.

One survey, that of the West German market, has already been published and the next, on France, will be published later this year.

Each report is divided into two parts and organisations are offered the option of buying either one or both parts.

Part one covers pumps, motors, valves, cylinders, and part two deals with hose, hose couplings, pipe, pipe couplings, and filters.

IMC says the main objective of the reports is to quantify the current and future demands for specific hydraulic products. The principal changes in demand over recent years are analysed and growth trends in the major market sectors highlighted.

Further information: circle 336

Cold service to Qatar

Unifast International has launched the first regular, direct sea route, door-to-door refrigerated container service from the UK to Qatar. The containers are shipped to the port of Umm Said 30 km south of Doha City and taken by road to their destination. The service operates fortnightly with a door-to-door transit time of 14 days.

Further information: circle 337

ADS offers full container rates on North Sea link

Midlands-based Anglo Dutch Shipping can now offer highly competitive rates for full container loads to Rotterdam's Europort, thanks to the success of its north Atlantic service.

The full and less than container load service started in November to eastern and seaboard ports of the United States. And, ADS says, its single rate, 24-hour collection and door-to-door delivery has resulted in a spin-off in full container loads to the continent only.

ADS is planning to meet this demand by acquiring additional shipping tonnage solely to cover requirements on this short sea route.

Further information: circle 338

Warwick statistics expands business information service

Warwick Statistics Service, the University of Warwick's commercial information service to industry, is expanding its services claimed to be of particular value to expanding exporters and companies with diverse market interests. It has the support of the Department of Industry.

The expansion is being serviced by the appointment of an information officer and this, Warwick Statistics Service says, is the first step towards developing a number of new services over the next few months including written desk research reports; a regular newsletter; and regular liaison with users and potential users.

The service provides access to one of the country's leading collections of statistical material with 10 000 titles and worldwide coverage. Already the service answers inquiries requesting information on a wide range of topics, from a complete breakdown of lathe production in Europe to the market for packet soup in New Zealand.

Further information: circle 339

Walkerpack opens new plant at factory

Walkerpack Ltd has opened a heavy-duty corrugated-board converting plant at its Nether Heyford, Northampton, factory.

Using the full range of Reeds' boards, Walkerpack is able to manufacture precisely to customers' needs. The company offers an emergency service and specialises in short run production.

Walkerpack's main lines of business has been in general export packing, timber case and pallet manufacture, warehousing, contract packing, removals and shipping.

Further information: circle 340

Eastern Arabia: Britain's £2bn customer

Saudi Arabia's new £20 million civil airport at Abha built by joint venture of John Laing Construction, George Wimpey and Haji Abdullah Alireza

Britain's exports of goods and services to the six countries of eastern Arabia – Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates – have reached about £2 billion a year. The Queen was due to return today from her tour of the area. Since 1973, these countries have tripled in relative importance to the UK's export trade. In 1973, they took 1.7 per cent of the total value of British visible exports. Five years later, British exports to the area were running at an annual rate of some £1,900 million. This is 5.1 per cent of Britain's total export trade and more valuable than that to Canada, Australia and New Zealand combined. And thanks to the reduced requirements for imported oil, British trade with the six countries together is now approximately in balance. Statistics and examples of export successes and prospects on the next three pages are followed by a market report on Kuwait.

Bahrain

Export successes

Cable and Wireless has signed contracts worth more than £4 million for a second satellite ground station. Marconi (UK) is supplying the ground communications and power equipment to the value of £1.7 million.

Ferranti Engineering has won a £¾ million contract to supply

van carriers (with spare parts and training) for use at Mina Sulman.

Export prospects

The proposed causeway from Bahrain to Saudi Arabia can be expected to provide a stimulus to business on the island. British companies seem well placed to be chosen to construct this planned 15-mile, four-lane motorway connecting Bahrain to the Arabian mainland. While Bahrain's market growth potential is modest, there are good prospects for continued business at the current rate. British firms are well established, and their most promising opportunities include consultancies, consumer goods and commercial and financial services.

Residential course

A course on working effectively in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf is being run jointly by the Industrial Society and the Centre for International Briefing on 26 to 30 March. The programme is designed to offer an intensive background briefing on living and working in the Middle East and will examine the problems faced by British companies operating in Saudi Arabia or the Gulf.

The course is intended for managers, advisers and project leaders who will be based in the Middle East, and for the managers, personnel and administrative staff based in the UK who are responsible for organising and liaising with their companies' operations in Saudi Arabia or the Gulf.

The course will examine the problems of setting up a company, operating under the Sharia (or Islamic Law), and the problems of training not only an indigenous, but also a third nationality workforce.

Further information: Julia A. Margetts, The Industrial Society, PO Box 1BQ, Robert Hyde House, 48 Bryanston Square, London W1H 1BQ, tel. 01-262 2401 ext. 112.

Kuwait

Export successes

Shellabear Price Contractors division of UK Biwater has won a £16.5 million contract to build four drinking water reservoirs in Kuwait City. A contract worth £13 million for three additional reservoirs is soon to be signed.

Acrow Engineers, London, has won over £¼ million contract to supply construction equipment for a major housing development in Kuwait City.

W. S. Atkins Group has been awarded two consulting engineering commissions by the Ministry of Public Works for work on new major highway projects. This brings to over £100 million the capital value of highway and bridge work in Kuwait for which Atkins is now responsible.

Export prospects

The volume of Kuwait's oil reserves, estimated to last 80 years at the current rate of extraction, promises flourishing commercial opportunities extending into the long term. Particularly promising areas for UK exporters include mechanical and engineering contracting, building materials and contractors' plant, oilfield and petrochemical plant, telecommunications equipment, supplies for schools and hospitals, financial services and many types of consumer goods.

Dubai international trade and exhibition centre, opened by the Queen. Main contractor, Bernard Sunley and Sons Ltd; architects, John R. Harris and Partners; structural engineers, R. J. Crocker and Partners; quantity surveyors, Widnell and Trollope (Middle East); M and E Engineers, J. Stinton Jones and Partners.

Saudi Arabia: faculty of medicine and King Khaled hospital nearing completion on the campus for the university of Riyad. Design and supervision of construction by British group Medical Faculty Consultants, comprising Cusdin Burden and Howitt (architects), W. S. Atkins and Partners (engineers) and Edmond Shipway and Partners (quantity surveyors).

Oman

Export successes

Pye TVT has been awarded two recent contracts for television equipment and maintenance.

Export prospects

British exporters will have to compete keenly to maintain their share of an import market that has been declining. Nevertheless, British suppliers and consultants are well established and there are good commercial opportunities for them in certain areas. These include construction, agricultural equipment, copper mining, and supplies for the health and education services and oil and gas industries.

Qatar

Export successes

Northern Engineering Industries has won a contract for more than £2.5 million to supply electrical switchgear.

Medikent International is to supply laboratory equipment for a hospital to the value of £250,000.

Pye TVT has negotiated the sale of two LDK14 tv camera systems in a £60,000 contract.

Export prospects

Since late 1977, economic activity in Qatar has slowed down. But longer-term prospects are good, with substantial income accruing to Qatar from petrochemical developments and, when it is decided to exploit it, one of the world's largest offshore gas fields, the north-west dome. Many British firms are well established and their market share has held up well, but keen competition can be expected. Opportunities lie principally in consultancies, procurement and construction work for infrastructure projects, building materials, consumer goods and supplies to the oil and gas industries (eventually including perhaps North Sea technology to exploit the north-west dome).

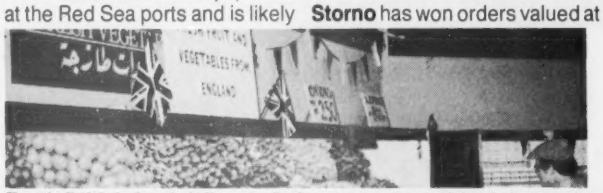
Saudi Arabia

Export successes

Lancer Boss, Leighton Buzzard, has signed an 'umbrella' truck order. The agreement aims to standardise fork lift equipment at the Red Sea ports and is likely to be worth up to £50 million to Lancer Boss in the next five years.

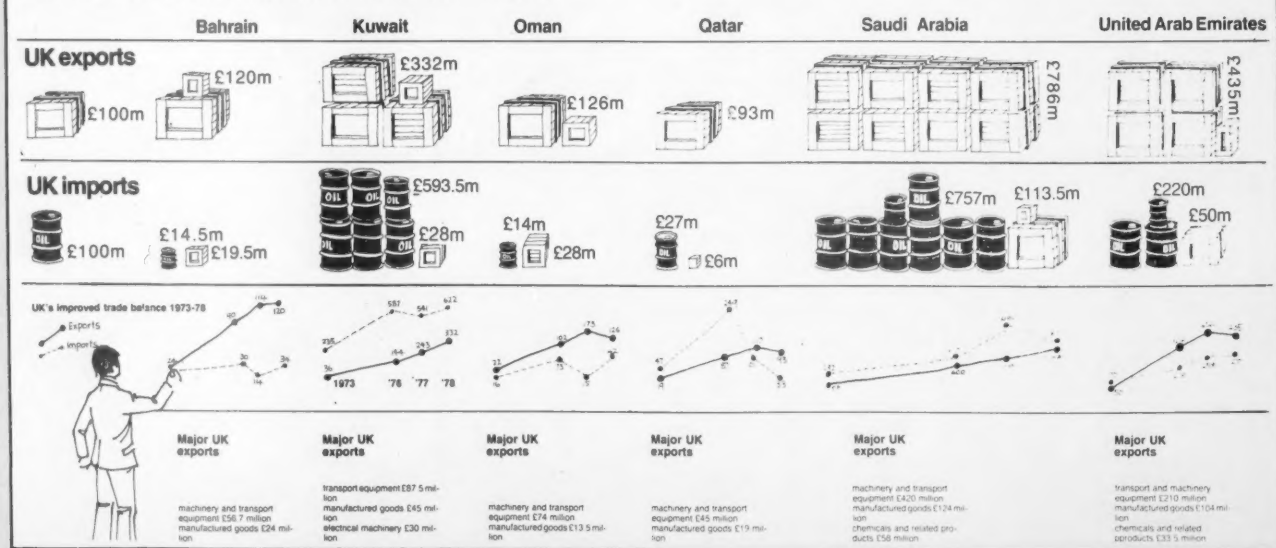
Lesser Building Systems has won a £¼ million contract for supplying accommodation units to meet the requirements of the construction, energy and industrial companies working in Saudi Arabia.

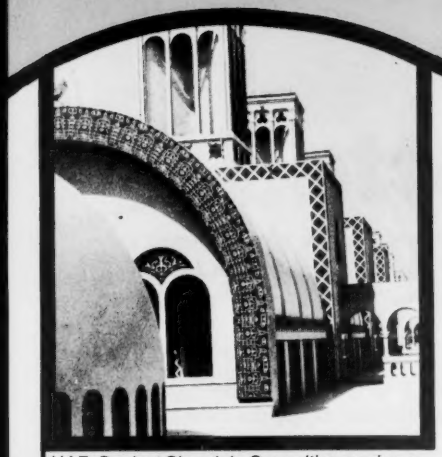
Storno has won orders valued at



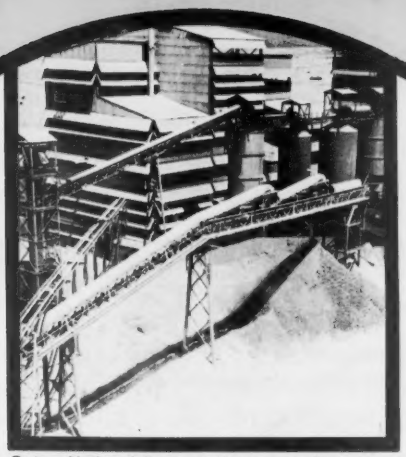
Fresh British food daily – in Doha. A lorry load of fresh fruit and vegetables bought the previous day in Covent Garden market is now delivered twice a week at a modern superstore, the Centre, Doha, some 3250 miles away. This service is part of a rapidly growing air and sea freight traffic from Britain to the 85 000 sq ft Centre which opened in April 1978 and has just launched its first major operation, a British fortnight timed to coincide with the Queen's visit to the area. Apart from the fresh foods, British goods included in the promotion (supported by the British Overseas Trade Board) were other foodstuffs, a wide selection of quality toys and games, men's and women's clothing, sports goods, china, kitchenware and household goods, electrical goods and records, linen and gift items. Built for Sheikh Ghanim Bin Ali Althani, the Centre is run by Jashanmal and Sons, and both the mechandising operation and the promotional activity are the result of the salesmanship, imagination and drive of the London-based buying house Market Development Overseas.

UK trade with eastern Arabia: 1978





UAE: Souh at Sharajah. Consulting engineers White Young and Partners.



Qatar: National Cement Company plant, Umm Bab. Consulting engineers, Pooley Atkins.

Saudi Arabia Port Authority: Lancer Boss lift trucks.

£2.7 million to supply Saudi Arabian government departments with a wide range of radio communications equipment (over 7000 Storno radio units are now in operation in Saudi Arabia).

Export prospects

The Saudi Arabian market, already large, has substantial potential for further growth. It has recently overtaken Iran as the largest Middle East market for UK visible exports, and now absorbs over 2 per cent of Britain's visible exports. The outcome of UK efforts to win the large prospective contracts for the academic area buildings of Riyadh University may make a large contribution to British exports to Saudi Arabia. Opportunities for UK exports include: construction work; supplies for infrastructure projects (notably in hospitals, education, telecommunication, airport and other transport equipment, power distribution and transmission equipment, and desalination works); oilfield equipment; printing equipment, business machines and fire safety equipment; invisibles; and high-quality consumer goods.

United Arab Emirates

Export successes

Abu Dhabi

White, Young and Partners has been appointed as advisory consultants to the government of Abu Dhabi on the construction of a new Zayed sports city complex, with responsibility for architecture, engineering and project management. The total cost of the project is likely to be £80 million.

Laing Group has concluded a contract worth £1.1 million for the construction of 40 single-storey houses.

Dubai

Paterson Candy International has been awarded a major portion of the multi-million pound contract won by Weir Westgarth for the supply of a multistage flash desalination plant for Dubai. The PCI contract is for chlorine generation equipment.

Dent and Hellyer recently completed a £270,000 contract for pharmaceutical equipment. It involved the design and installation of a pharmacy for the central medical services complex for the Department of Health and Medical Services.

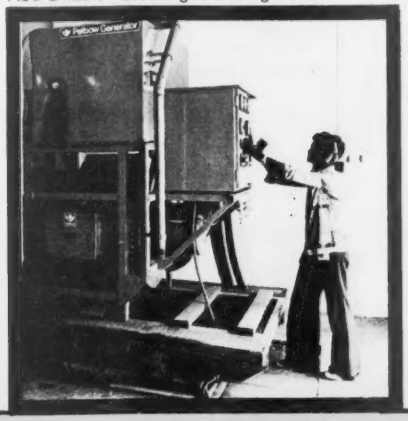
Export prospects

In the long term there should be widespread opportunities for British business throughout the UAE as a result of Abu Dhabi's oil wealth and the continuing strength of merchanting and service sector developments in Dubai. The most promising sectors include infrastructure, consultancy and construction, oil industry supplies (particularly in Abu Dhabi), and (in Dubai above all) consumer goods and invisibles.

Saudi Arabia construction guide by Building Management and Marketing Consultants.

UAR: Biwater Shellabear pipe line.

Abu Dhabi: Petbow generating sets.



Dubai: Sports stadium designed by Laing.

Towards the twenty-first century

Kuwait was the first port of call for the Queen during her three-week visit to the Middle East which ended this week. The country's massive oil wealth continues to offer rich commercial opportunities as the government activates plans for a new Kuwait by the year 2000. Arthur Marshall, commercial secretary at the British embassy in Kuwait, explains how to approach business in Kuwait today.

Two decades of development.

There cannot be all that many places in the world which have their sights so firmly turned towards the twenty-first century as Kuwait. Faced with a birth rate which will result in the population doubling by the 1990s the Kuwaiti government – with the help of British consultants, the Shankland Cox Partnership – has drawn up a master plan for a new Kuwait. Ten per cent of the country's revenue from oil and all other sources has been set aside 'for future generations'.

The new Kuwait – 'Kuwait 2000' I have nicknamed it – will spread itself over large stretches of desert that had hitherto not been foreseen as development areas. Kuwait of the 1970s has been a city state with a population the size of Birmingham in a stretch of territory the size of Wales. Kuwait 2000 will have a rebuilt original city, plus three new major city centres in what is now desert.

'Can they do it? I hear someone say. An observer might equally ask, 'Could the Kuwaitis have built in 20 years what is to be seen in the country today?' Everything you see in the photograph on this page has been created in two decades. But the Kuwaitis themselves did not evolve so quickly! That process dates back two centuries when certain harrassed trading tribes from the south decided to search for a peaceful environment in which to ply their trade.

They developed into a city state of merchants with all the trading skills of the Venetians. And, long before they started earning money from oil, the Kuwaitis were a bustling community making money from pearling, fishing, boat-building, and trading – always trading.

So the money from oil, when it came in the late 1950s, did not go to their heads. They knew exactly what to do with it, and in no time they were investing it all round the world. But Kuwait never felt the need to parade its wealth in a flamboyant way. Even today its airport, its council chambers and its ministry buildings are still the unpretentious original buildings put up in the 1950s and 1960s. In the next few years these will all have been replaced by very much more splendid edifices designed by renowned architects. It is interesting to see that this phase of rebuilding the original city of Kuwait has had to wait while more important priorities have been attended to. Apart from anything else the Kuwaitis are a prudent, cautious people. If a project gets the Kuwaiti stamp of approval you can be pretty sure that it is sound and profitable.

A number of factors finally triggered off the new development boom which began in 1975 and will continue for many years to come. Principally there was the pressure of an expanding population and the need for housing and hospitals. The sudden surge of income from the 1973 oil price increases produced vast revenue surpluses and encouraged Kuwait to go ahead with its development plans. As a result annual import figures leapt from 311 million Kuwaiti dinas (£564 million) in 1973 to an estimated 1,130 million dinas (£2,050 million) in 1977.

Everything has to be imported to build and feed this new Kuwait. Further, since we are dealing with a trading nation, much more is imported for re-export to many neighbouring countries, and many orders placed from Kuwait are related to projects elsewhere in the world where there is Kuwaiti investment – a large slice of the world.

A country like Kuwait is not to be neglected. Even if it is not right as a market for your particular product, do not neglect the Kuwaitis themselves. Kuwaitis love talking business; and with business interests all over the world and in every conceivable direction there is no saying where you will end up once you start talking to them.

It is worrying, therefore, that people can so easily be put off coming here. At the moment we are having to fight the popular belief that with slow down elsewhere in the Gulf and a troubled situation in Iran there is nothing to be had in Kuwait. The truth is that there is a great deal of business to be done here now and in the foreseeable future.

UK performance and prospects

How is Britain faring in all this? Pretty well. We are the number three trading partner in spite of not having had much of a look in until quite recently in the car market and the construction scene. Our exports to Kuwait in sterling terms increased almost sevenfold between 1973 and 1977, and the 1978 figures will be around nine times as much. But instead of just holding our market share of around 10 per cent we could be penetrating new markets. Among the sectors which are particularly promising are mechanical and engineering contracting, construction, building materials and construction plant, oilfield and petrochemical plant, supplies for the social services (health and education), as well as many types of consumer goods including foodstuffs, furniture and furnishings, tableware, domestic electrical appliances and audio equipment and invisibles.

Don't let's have any illusions, though. Kuwait is undoubtedly a tough and very competitive market. One simply has to come out and discover from experience how business is done here: by personal contact for a start and by regularly visiting one's contacts; nothing can be achieved by correspondence alone. The first time round you may feel that you have made no impression; but once mutual confidence is established things can happen.

Ideally the business is found by having a resident representative in Kuwait poised for all opportunities. Bovis led the way back into Kuwait for British contractors by keeping someone here ready to seize the right opportunities. British consultants have done especially well by virtue of their fine professional reputation and by being around to track down new assignments. But we need many more British manufacturers' representatives here than we have at present. It is quite an outlay keeping a representative on the spot but the rewards can be very great.

If £50,000 a year is too much to expect your

More information

More facts and figures about UK trade with Kuwait are published on pages 435-36.

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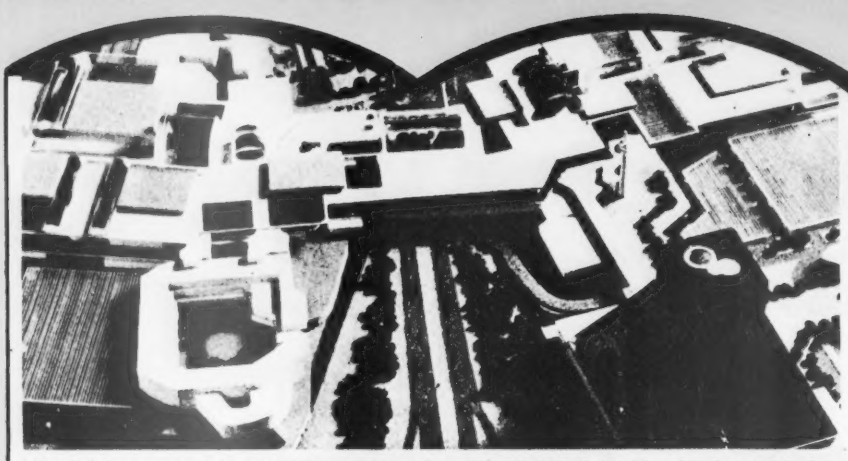

Model of the commercial, entertainment and employment centre at Fintas. The planning and design contract was awarded to Shankland Cox Partnership in 1976.

company to invest in such representation, which would cover of course all the surrounding territories, the least you should do is appoint a Kuwaiti agent. Every Kuwaiti has the trading instinct, and if your prices are right and his profit margins are attractive he is in the position to do business for you on a scale you had not imagined. If he sees a secure market for the next 20 years for screwdrivers he will buy up a 20-year stock. Just sell 'em and don't argue.

Homework first

But before you rush out here there is plenty of homework to do first. For a start ring up Department of Trade offices at Export House on 01-248 5757 or your nearest regional office and ask them to arrange a briefing on Kuwait for you. They will be able to kit you up with quite a lot of hard information, including the 'Hints to exporters' booklet, our quarterly projects list, a confidential note for British business visitors to Kuwait, and a guide to all the financial institutions here (there are 41 of them now).

You will also be able to obtain from them a list of the British firms that have set up shop here. You may discover that some firm with which you are closely associated is active here, and that could lead to interesting developments. Personal contact and personal recommendation are vital. If your associate is working here, he is known and trusted by the Kuwaitis (otherwise he would not be here), and therefore they will accept – and indeed welcome – any recommendation from him on your behalf. If you had won the pools and wanted to find the right people to build your country estate, you would look around for people you could trust, accepting their recommendations for a contractor. Kuwait is rather like that, but on a massively bigger scale: gdp per capita in 1978 was $11,275 – call it £5,000 per head – which is quite a birthright.

When you have done your homework, work out with your friends in the Department of Trade when it would be a good time to visit Kuwait and they will let us know in the embassy's commercial department. We shall do more homework on your behalf so that when you come out here we can give you a good grounding and send you out to talk to as many people as possible in the time available. Keep an open mind when you come. Be ready to talk about any propositions and think big. To any Kuwaiti talking project business, £2 million is chickenfeed. Two million dinas (£4 million) sounds more substantial. It can be quite embarrassing to watch a British business visitor flinch at the mention of sums of money of six figures or less which, to the Kuwaiti mind, are very paltry sums indeed where one is talking about investment. But not so when one is haggling over prices. That's where the Kuwaiti turns his telescope round and looks at sums of money from the other end. Once you have made your deal there is no further argument and prompt payment in hard cash is guaranteed. As with Venetians of old, so with Kuwaitis; their word is as good as their bond.

Important to visit

If you think you have been neglecting Kuwait, do come and see for yourself and talk to people here. Talk especially to other British companies who have someone out here. Ask them if they think it has been worth the outlay. They will probably say they could not afford to be without representation. But, as I say, if that is too much of an expense for your company – an altogether reasonable conclusion – use our services at least to help find an agent. There are times when, perhaps because of the specialised nature of the product, this can be difficult; but generally speaking we can put you in touch with the right people.

If you have never been to the Middle East before it is almost impossible to get a true idea of how business is done here. And when you have seen for yourself remember to keep in touch with us and with your Kuwaiti contacts after you get back home. So often our Kuwaiti friends say: 'whatever happened to that nice man who was out here a few months ago?'. If you have kept us in the picture we can tell them, and, who knows, may be catch you a bit of business in the meantime, with more to follow by the time you can get out here to take over.

Transmark wins Kuwaiti contracts

Transmark, a subsidiary of British Railways, has signed a contract with the municipality of Kuwait to carry out a feasibility and preliminary design study for a 220 km railway linking Kuwait City with the Iraqi rail network and with Saudi Arabia.

The study, expected to take six months, will investigate route location including the option of links with the ports of Shuwaikh and Shuaiba, potential demand, capital and operational requirements, and economic viability. Attention will also be given to questions of management, commissioning and training.

The project follows an agreement between the Kuwaiti and Iraqi governments, but in the longer term represents an important step towards the goal of a pan-Arab railway, and in particular towards the Arab League's plan for a railway along the western edge of the gulf.

Other export successes by Transmark were mentioned in *Trade and Industry*'s special report on nationalised industries' exports published last week.

Success in Kuwait starts here

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Overseas trade country data

Australia

Passenger motor vehicles. As announced in *Trade and Industry*, 21 October 1977, the Australian government imposed restrictions, which were scheduled to remain in force until the end of this year, on imports of fully assembled cars.

The government has now asked the Industries Assistance Commission to inquire into, and to report on, what import control arrangements may be necessary during 1980 and 1981 to ensure that its policy of reserving about 80 per cent of the market for local production continues to be implemented.

Interested parties will be given an opportunity during the inquiry to express their views.

Details on the timing and location of the inquiry will be published as soon as it is available.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319

Ref: CRE 428/79

Fixed resistors. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, April 1978, announced the date of the public inquiry into the question of the long-term assistance requirements of that sector of local industry manufacturing fixed resistors of a kind falling within tariff item 85.19.6.

The Industries Assistance Commission has now released a draft report of the inquiry which is being made available to give interested parties an opportunity to examine and comment on it before recommendations are made to government. The commission will hold a further public hearing in the Public Inquiry Room, Industries Assistance Commission, 16th Floor, 59 Goulbourn Street, Sydney NSW on 9 March.

Those intending to give evidence at the public hearing should inform the commission immediately.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319

Ref: CRE 1710/77

Labelling standard. The Australian Department of Business and Consumer Affairs has adopted a consumer product information standard designed to help consumers avoid damage to clothing and household fabrics through incorrect cleaning and so on.

The standard requires the care label to be permanently fixed to most products and to carry the required information.

Further details are available from CRE 01-215 5319

Ref: CRE 35184

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel. direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757. In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Cyprus

Motor cars. Under new legislation, the excise duty on imported motor cars into Cyprus, classified under BN 87.02(19), has been increased by 20 per cent on vehicles exceeding 1500 cc.

The rates are now as follows:

1500 cc to 2000 cc, £50 per 100 cc
2000 cc to 2500 cc, £100 per 100 cc
2500 cc and over, £150 per 100 cc

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 439.

Greece

Live swine. A recent Greek press report announced that an anti-dumping duty of 6 drachmae per kg will be levied on live swine imported for slaughtering, classified under BN 01.03. Also affected are calve's liver classified under BN 02.01 which will now carry an anti-dumping duty of 58 drachmae per kg.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 439.

Israel

Free import order 1978. The Israeli authorities have issued amendments to the Free Import Order 1978, adding certain items to the list of goods requiring an import licence and also adding items to the list of goods which must conform to certain standards.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Kuwait

Foodstuffs. A copy, in Arabic, of Kuwait standard specification KSS 4/1970 covering 'preserved tomato products' has been received from the British embassy.

An unofficial translation of this specification is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/7062.

Malta

Import licensing. The Malta *Government Gazette* 6 February, published legal notice 21 of 1979, which had the immediate effect of adding the following goods to the list of items requiring an import licence.

a Machinery for cutting marble into sheets
b Pharmaceutical preparations, the following:
- Compound aneurine tablets (vitamin B tablets compound BPC
- Strong compound aneurine tablets (vitamin B tablets compound BPC)
- Ascorbic acid (vitamin C tablets BP 50 mg, 100 mg, 200 mg, 500 mg
- Aspirin tablets 75 mg (coloured and flavoured)
- Aspirin tablets BP 300 mg
- Cascara tablets BP 300 mg
- Codeine compound tablets BP
- Cotrimoxazole tablets BP 400 mg 80 mg
- Ibuprofen tablets BP 200 mg 400 mg
- Indomethican capsules BP
- Paracetemol tablets BP 500 mg
- Phenobarbitone tablets BP 30 mg
- Phenylbutazone tablets BP 100 mg, 200 mg
- Vegetable laxative tablets

c Thread or yarn in man-made and/or natural fibres
d Vehicles, motor, the following:
- Bodies of motor vehicles without the relative chassis
- Motor vehicle chassis with or without cab
- Motor cycles
- Motor vehicle engines
- New or used motor vehicles whether ready built or in knocked down condition.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Nigeria

Goods imported in containers. Government notice 2 published in the *Official Gazette*, 4 January, contains the requirements of the Board of Customs and Excise for the importing of goods in containers.

The paragraph of particular interest to exporters is as follows.

Goods imported in a container shall be homogeneous. Any container carrying goods shall be accompanied by a packing list certified by the producer, manufacturer, supplier or exporter showing all the items imported in the container. Any container carrying heterogeneous goods may be subject to 100 per cent examination by the proper officer.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 473.

Pre-shipment inspection. Further to the notice in *Trade and Industry* 22/29 December 1978 (page 640), the Nigerian Central Bank has stated that from 21 February 1979 authorised dealers are empowered to grant exemption to pre-shipment inspection on form M for imports valued at 'not more than 10,000 Naira', without prior reference to the central bank, provided that the goods are not part of a larger order in respect of similar/related goods valued at more than 10,000 Naira (c and f).

Authorised dealers have been warned to ensure that applicants do not split orders for the same class of goods of a c and f value in excess of 10,000 Naira in order to obtain exemptions.

These regulations relate solely to the procedure for granting exemptions from pre-shipment inspection. The procedure for obtaining approval and release of foreign exchange remains the same as for other categories of imports.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 3064.

Norway

Food additives. The Norwegian authorities have issued the 1979 list of food additives approved in Norway. Copies, in Norwegian only, are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458.

Sharjah

Import duties. According to Sharjah customs ordinance 1976 the import duties into Sharjah are:

When the goods are imported by sea, cement and explosives 2 per cent of cif value, all other goods 3 per cent of cif value.
When the goods are imported by air, all goods 2 per cent of cif value;

There is also a charge of one Dirham per airway bill. There are also some goods exempt from import duty and some prohibited and restricted items.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/420.

South Africa

Tariff application. Customs tariff application list 7/79, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 23 February, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in the duty on:

Steering wheels for motor vehicles, classifiable under tariff subheading 87.06.90.90, imported with unassembled motor vehicles, classifiable under tariff subheadings 87.02.22, 87.02.24 and 87.02.60, and with unassembled chassis for light goods vehicles, classifiable under tariff subheading 87.04.25.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should therefore first contact its own trade association.

Any firm proposing to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requiring further information should address inquiries to CRE 01-215 5274.

Spain

Ethyl alcohol. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 12 February, published royal decree 215/1979 suspending for three months the import duty to be paid on the importation of ethyl alcohol, undenatured, not from wine, of a strength of more than 96 degrees (CCCN 22.08A).

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461/458/459/460.

Aluminium waste and scrap. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 12 February, published royal decree 214/1979 establishing a quota for the importation, free of import duties, of 5000 tonnes of aluminium waste and scrap (CCCN 76.01B).

The decree came into force on 12 February.

Import licences for this quota will be allocated by the Spanish Ministry of Commerce.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461/458/459/460.

Sri Lanka

Budget. The Sri Lankan budget proposals for 1979 have been presented. Announcements (not yet confirmed) made on the subject of foreign investment were as follows:

1 Foreign companies will have to pay the standard rate of taxation of 50 per cent plus an additional 5 per cent in lieu of estate duty as well as wealth tax and a withholding tax on profit remittance (at current rates).
2 Financial limits governing the tax holiday outside municipal limits are to be doubled to Rs 1 million.
3 Profits during the tax holiday will now be exempt up to Rs 200,000 per annum and dividends will be exempt in this period.
4 Tax holiday arrangements are to be extended to new companies engaging in manufacture and export of approved non-traditional products from locations outside the Investment Promotion zones (those within already have this concession).

No further details are available but general inquiries about Sri Lanka's investment situation can be directed to CRE4, tel. 01-215 5278/5279

Sweden

Agricultural import levies. The Swedish State Agricultural Board has announced that the agricultural levies for certain items contained in the following headings have been amended from 1 February.

02.05, 15.01, 15.03, 15.06, 15.07, 15.12, 15.13, 19.03, 19.04, 19.07, 19.08.

The following have been amended from 15 February.

10.01, 10.02, 11.01, 11.02.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 459.

Thailand

Electric motors. The Thai Board of Investment had repealed the special fee of 15 per cent of the cif price on the import of ¼-3 hp ac electrical induction motors coming under CCN 85 – 0IG. The fee was introduced last autumn.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Venezuela

Pre-fabricated housing. Decree 2931 published in the *Gaceta Oficial*, 19 January, announced that import tariffs on prefabricated housing units intended for urban development and authorised by the National Urban Development Fund are suspended until 31 July.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474.

CRE tel. Direct dialling
OTAR tel. 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

A library for exporters

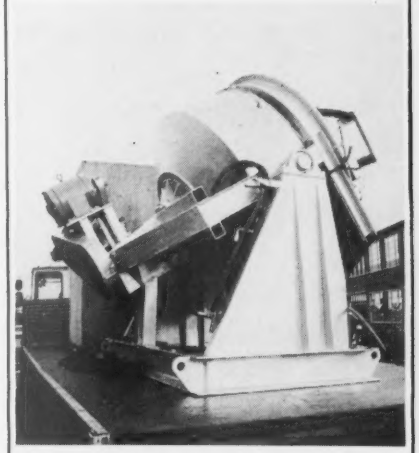
Trade and other economic statistics from almost every country in the world, including the UK, are available for reference in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368/369, telex 886143 (DTI Export LDN). A modern well-equipped library of over 100 000 volumes, it has a public reading room equipped with microfiche readers and photocopying facilities. Among the documents available are foreign trade directories covering some 170 countries and selected trade fair catalogues. The library is open from 09.00 to 17.30, Monday to Friday (last passes for the building are issued at 17.15).

United States

Home brewing. The *Federal Register*, 6 February, published a final rule by the bureau of alcohol, tobacco and firearms permitting the lawful home brewing of beer and wine for personal or family use.

A copy of the text is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Furnace to Jordan



Off to Jordan is a rotor melt furnace from Chine Furnaces of Lewes, Sussex. This particular rotor melt is oil-fired, rotating, and tilted by hydraulic ram. This order was specifically designed for the recovery of antimonial lead from used car batteries. A recovery of around 70 per cent of antimonial lead is claimed. Pollution-controlled melting and pouring is achieved by the installation of the Chine rotor melt in a complete house, with fume extraction by chimney or bag house filters. Shift output of up to 4000 kg is usual with this furnace.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators [2]

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers'	Retailers'	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1975 prices		at 1975 prices			at 1975 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1977	1975	£ million	£ million			£ million 34,469	19,995	4,540	3,181	£ million		
1973	103.4	65 497	21 609	3 504	4 674	2 983	1 336	432	624	−999	−2 383	1 384
1974	101.5	64 070	21 164	3 822	4 605	1 462	1 288	361	−180	−3 591	−5 235	1 644
1975	100.0	63 192	20 817	3 522	3 841	−1 925	−1 221	−249	−100	−1 855	−3 236	1 381
1976	102.9	63 320	20 489	3 345	3 926	261	316	131	13	−1 149	−3 601	2 452
1977	104.9	62 732	19 738	3 573	4 325	1 051	442	266	29	371	−1 744	2 115
1978		66 261		3 833	4 671		544	17	333	84 p	−1 129	1 213 p
1976 2nd qtr	102.7	15 785	5 137	828	972	−17	−29	−10	−67	−315	−949	634
3rd qtr	103.3	15 884	5 168	849	1 005	189	99	81	46	−421	−1 136	715
4th qtr	104.0	15 927	4 997	856	1 014	214	260	17	27	−334	−966	632
1977 1st qtr	103.8	15 619	4 794	851	1 030	442	235	82	117	−453	−946	493
2nd qtr	104.8	15 495	5 025	879	1 044	354	97	179	4	−297	−779	482
3rd qtr	105.0	15 777	4 965	910	1 103	6	−6	−80	−59	541	−3	544
4th qtr	105.9	15 841	4 954	932	1 149	249	116	85	−33	580	−16	596
1978 1st qtr	106.1	16 311	5 030	920	1 169	460	38	81	62	−361	−590	229
2nd qtr	108.0	16 370	5 056	962	1 180	432	272	−62	128	135	−173	308
3rd qtr	108.9	16 810	*	981	1 168	*	175	45	54	−49	−365	316
4th qtr		16 704 pe		968	1 153		60	−47	89	359 p	−1	360 p
% change last 2 qtrs on prev. 2 qtrs.	+2.3	+2.5	+1.0	+3.5	−1.2							
on a year earlier	+3.4	+6.0	+1.0	+5.8	+3.1							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and earnings					Labour (UK)				Visible trade (volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Average gross earnings of all employees (GB, all industries and services covered)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults		Export	Import
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manufactured products: home sales		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count		On a balance of payment basis	
	at 1975 prices		at 1971 prices		(not seasonally adjusted)				(old series)					at 1975 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1975	1975	1971 16,296	thousands	Jan. 1974		1975	1975	Jan. 1970	thousands		thousands		1975 19,463	1975 22,699
1973	109.5	108.4	110.3	137.1	93.5	9.1	58.8	66.7	152.1	611.0	2.6	307.0		97.7	108.8
1974	105.1	106.5	109.0	102.8	108.5	16.0	86.8	81.8	179.1	599.7'	2.6'	302.7'		104.2	109.7
1975	100.0	100.0	106.7	97.2	134.8	24.2	100.0	100.0	226.6	929.0	3.9	150.0'		100.0	100.0
1976	102.0	101.4	106.5	104.7	157.1	16.5	127.0	117.3	261.9	1 269.8'	5.4'	120.4'		109.7	105.6
1977	105.8	102.8	103.6	107.1	182.0	15.8	145.6	140.5	288.5	1 378.1	5.8	155.6'		118.9	107.3
1978	109.7	103.6	109.2	130.1	197.1	8.3	144.6 p	153.3 p	330.2 p	1 375.6	5.8	210.3		122.9	112.8
1977 1st qtr	105.5	103.8	103.3	104	174.1	16.5	144.8	133.0	280.0	1 329.5	5.6	..		115.9	108.9
2nd qtr	105.6	102.4	102.4	103	181.9	17.4	148.8	139.6	285.3	1 340.6	5.6	157.7		117.7	110.7
3rd qtr	106.2	103.0	104.2	112	184.7	16.5	146.5	143.8	288.3	1 414.6	5.9	151.9		124.6	107.3
4th qtr	105.8	101.9	104.7	110	187.4	13.1	142.2	145.8	300.4	1 427.8	6.0	160.1		117.3	102.4
1978 1st qtr	106.9	102.1	106.4	131	190.6	9.5	140.2	149.2	310.8	1 409.4	5.9	187.7		119.6	113.8
2nd qtr	110.9	104.7	107.9	132	195.8	7.7	146.3	151.8	329.0	1 372.7	5.7	210.3		122.2	110.0
3rd qtr	111.2	104.9	110.7	135	199.2	7.8	144.9	154.8	334.6	1 380.5	5.8	213.0		124.9	114.4
4th qtr	109.9	102.7	111.7	123	202.6	8.1	147.1	157.3	346.6 p	1 339.7	5.6	230.3		125.1	112.8
1978 Jan	106.7	102.1	105.3	127	189.5	9.9	139.4	148.3	306.3	1 419.2	5.9	180.3		111.0	113.1
Feb	107.3	102.0	106.7	122	190.6	9.5	139.1	149.2	311.2	1 409.0	5.9	187.0		127.3	111.8
Mar	106.7	102.3	107.2	145	191.8	9.1	142.0	150.0	314.8	1 400.0	5.9	195.8		120.4	116.6
Apr	111.2	105.2	106.9	134	194.6	7.9	145.1	150.9	325.7	1 387.1	5.8	203.7		124.3	105.1
May	110.1	103.4	108.2	126	195.7	7.7	146.8	151.9	327.2	1 366.4	5.7	209.9		120.5	113.6
Jun	111.4	105.4	108.6	135	197.2	7.4	147.0	152.7	334.0	1 364.7	5.7	217.4		121.9	111.4
Jul	111.4	105.0	111.0	109	198.1	7.8	145.8	153.8	332.7	1 371.4	5.7	211.0		125.7	112.2
Aug	111.7	105.5	111.7	148	199.4	8.0	144.2	154.8	333.2	1 392.1	5.8	209.3		124.5	111.6
Sep	110.5	104.2	109.6	146	200.2	7.8	144.8	155.7	338.0	1 378.3	5.8	218.7		124.4	119.5
Oct	108.9	102.1	110.2	134	201.1	7.8	145.7	156.6	344.8	1 359.6	5.7	228.4		125.9	111.3
Nov	109.6	102.5	110.5	119	202.5	8.1	147.3	157.1	343.5	1 338.8	5.6	231.3		122.6	114.1
Dec	111.3 p	103.6 p	113.8	115	204.2	8.4	148.2 p	158.3 p	351.4 p	1 320.7	5.5	231.2		126.7	113.0
1979 Jan			109½ p	121	207.2	9.3	150.6 p	159.8 p		1 339.1	5.6	235.9		113.1 p	107.3 p
Feb										1 362.6	5.7	230.9			
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−1.2	−2.1	+1.0	−17.1	+2.2		+2.6	+1.7	+3.6	−1.3		+2.9		−3½	−2½
on a year earlier	+3.9	+0.8	+5.8	+4.7	+8.6		+5.6	+7.9	+15.4	−5.4		+31.1		+5	+5½

p Provisional e Estimate · pe 2nd preliminary estimate ' Average of available months [2] Including figures published by 2 March 1979 * Figures due to be revised

Inquiries: 01-215 3453

Economic indicators of the industrial countries

The average growth of real gross national product (gnp) for OECD countries as a whole in the first half of 1978 was about 3½ per cent at an annual rate, similar to the rate for the previous half year and to the expected out-turn for 1978. Estimates suggest that the seven major OECD countries grew a little faster than the average. The volume of OECD trade expanded by about 5 per cent in the first half of 1978 and this growth is thought to have been maintained in the second half. The year-on-year increase in consumer prices continued to run at over 8 per cent while the unemployment level, at a little under 5½ per cent in the third quarter, has shown little change since 1976.

Canada

The improvement shown in the Canadian economy during the first half of 1978 was maintained in the third quarter but gnp still remains below potential. Industrial production also continued to improve in the third quarter, boosted by a monthly increase of just over 3 per cent in September. Compared with the corresponding period of 1977, in the first three quarters of 1978 the volume of exports grew substantially more rapidly than that of imports (about 8½ and 1 per cent respectively) and the real foreign trade balance made a significant positive contribution to the growth in gnp. Despite this improvement the current account remains in large deficit, reflecting a worsening in the deficit on invisibles.

After the earlier influences of rising food prices, the index of consumer prices became more stable later in the year with the year-on-year increase in December reaching 8.4 per cent. This inflation is not expected to improve much in 1979 as the effect of the currency depreciation works through. The unemployment rate has remained around the 8½ per cent mark for much of 1978, although it fell back in the fourth quarter of the year.

United States

Activity in the United States economy continued to improve in the second half of last year, with a surprisingly strong performance in the fourth quarter when real gnp increased over the previous quarter at an annual rate of around 6 per cent bringing the increase for the year as a whole to about 4 per cent. Industrial production, according to press releases, rose by 0.6 per cent in December the same increase as in the previous month giving a last quarter rise of nearly 7 per cent at an annual rate. Compared with a year earlier, in the first nine months of 1978 export and import volumes grew at about the same rate (nearly 7 per cent) while the trade deficit for 1978 as a whole reached a record $34.12 billion (on a balance of payments basis). This remains of considerable concern as does inflation where the increase in the 12 months to December was 9 per cent, reported to be the worst in any year except 1974 since 1946-47.

Unemployment has shown no real signs of improvement since the early months of 1978 although the unemployment rate for 1978 at 6 per cent was an improvement on the 7.1 per cent average for 1977.

Japan

The performance of industrial production in the October to December quarter of fiscal year 1978 (April 1978 to March 1979) and a more optimistic atmosphere have encouraged hopes than real gnp growth for fiscal 1978 may come close to the revised official projection of 6 per cent. This would require an average quarterly

The tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves. International publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented, where available, by later reports, denoted – (e). The form of presentation adopted – indicators by subject – is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned. Exchange rates are those used in the basic data sources. The group of industrial countries is taken as comprising the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) ie: western Europe, north America, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Consumer prices apart, New Zealand is excluded from OECD totals in that insufficient information is available.

This article is the quarterly variation of the monthly series, supplementing the usual tables with those showing: gross domestic production, earnings/wages, world and industrial countries' trade, balance of payments, import and export volume and exports of manufactures.

Table 1 Industrial production (excluding construction) seasonally adjusted

Indices 1975 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	France [2]	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom r	EEC [1] [3]	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD [3]
Weights in total	1.6	0.1	7.9	13.5	0.2	4.9	1.8	5.6	35.6	3.7	34.9	15.5	100
1974	111	128.1	108	106.0	107	109.7	105	105.0	107	105.7	109.8	111.7	109
1975	100	100.0	100	100.0	100	100.0	100	100.0	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100
1976	109	106.3	109	107.3	109	111.6	106	102.7	107	105.1	110.2	111.0	109
1977	109	106.9	110	110.5	118	111.6	107	107.4	110	109.3	116.4	115.6	113
1978			113 e	112.8 e			108 e	110.8			123.1 e	122.6 e	
1976 1st quarter	105	104.8	107	106	106	107.4	104	100.1	105	103.4	108.0	106.6	106
2nd	110	111.6	108	107	107	111.3	106	102.7	107	105.8	109.8	110.4	108
3rd	109	103.9	110	109	110	113.1	107	102.8	108	105.3	111.1	112.7	109
4th	110	105.1	110	110	112	117.9	108	105.4	110	105.9	111.7	113.9	111
1977 1st quarter	111	107.6	112	111	114	121.0	107	107.5	112	108.5	113.4	115.3	112
2nd	109	111.1	111	110	117	112.5	108	107.5	110	108.6	116.3	115.2	113
3rd	107	101.5	110	110	117	111.7	105	107.8	110	109.4	117.5	115.1	113
4th	109	106.2	109	111	123	109.3	107	106.8	110	110.9	118.3	116.6	114
1978 1st quarter	108	114.5	110	111	127	115.3	107	108.2	111	111.6	118.5	120.0	115
2nd	108	114.7	113	111	129	112.8	107	111.7	112	113.1	122.2	122.1	117
3rd	108	110.1	113	114	126	113.8	108	112.3	112	114.9	124.8	122.8	118
4th			115 e	115 e			108 e	110.9			126.9 e	125.4 e	
1977 August	111	91.1	111	110		111.0	104	108.0	110	109.4	117.2	115.9	113
September	105	108.3	111	111		113.9	106	108.1	111	109.8	117.6	115.7	114
October	105	101.5	109	110		109.0	106	106.6	109	110.6	117.9	115.0	113
November	109	110.9	111	110		111.3	105	106.5	110	110.8	118.3	117.0	114
December	112	106.1	108	113		107.6	109	107.5	110	111.3	118.6	117.9	114
1978 January	110	117.2	111	114		113.5	107	108.0	112	109.9	117.8	119.1	115
February	107	116.2	111	110		116.7	107	108.7	111	112.1	118.2	119.2	115
March	106	109.9	113	110		115.9	107	108.0	111	112.8	119.6	121.7	116
April	111	114.0	117	110		112.1	109	112.1	112	113.3	121.6	121.8	117
May	108	116.3	114	110		113.6	104	110.6	111	112.4	122.2	122.2	116
June	107	113.9	112	112		112.6	108	112.3	112	113.5	123.0	122.3	117
July	101	113.2	113	114		113.5	110	112.5	113	114.3	124.0	121.2	118
August	111	106.3	113	113		112.1	107	112.8	113	113.5	124.9	123.1	118
September	111	110.9	114	115		115.7	108	111.4	114	117.0	125.4	124.1	119
October	114	115.0	114	114		119.4	108	109.6	114 e	116.9	126.1	123.9	119 e
November			115 e	114 e		119.4 e	106 e	110.5	114 e		126.9	125.5 e	120 e
December			117 e	117 e			109 e	112.5			127.8 e	126.8 e	
1979 January											127.9 e		
% change latest three months On previous three months	6.3	−3.3	1.8	0.9	−2.3	4.8	−0.6	−1.2	1.2	2.1	1.6	2.1	1.4
On a year earlier	4.7	10.4	5.5	3.6	7.7	6.1	0.9	3.7	3.6	5.3	7.9	7.5	5.0

[1] Excluding Denmark. [2] Yearly and quarterly data have more complete coverage than monthly data. [3] The monthly figures for OECD and EEC are weighted by Department of Trade consistent with the quarterly figures published by OECD. e Estimated. r Revised.

Source: United Kingdom, Central Statistical Office; all others 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

Table 2 **Gross domestic production** seasonally adjusted — Indices 1975 = 100

	Canada [1]	United States [1]	Japan [1]	Italy	France [2]	FR of Germany [1]	United Kingdom
1974	99	101	99	104	100	102	101
1975	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1976	106	106	106	106	106	106	103
1977	108	111	112	108	108	108	105
1978		115					
1975 1st qtr	99	97	97	100	98	99	100
2nd	99	99	100	99	100	99	100
3rd	100	101	101	99	99	100	99
4th	101	102	103	102	102	102	100
1976 1st qtr	105	104	105	104	104	104	102
2nd	106	105	106	106	106	105	103
3rd	105	106	107	106	106	106	103
4th	106	107	108	108	107	107	104
1977 1st qtr	107	109	110	110	109	108	104
2nd	108	110	112	107	107	108	105
3rd	108	112	112	107	108	108	105
4th	110	113	114	106	108	110	106
1978 1st qtr	111	113	117	108 e	110	110	106
2nd	112	115	118	109 e	111	112	108
3rd	113	116	119	109 e		113	109
4th		117					
% change latest quarter							
On previous quarter	0.9	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.9
On a year earlier	4.1	4.3	5.8	2.6	3.3	4.1	3.8

[1] Gnp at market prices. [2] Annual and quarterly figures are on a different basis. e Estimated figures.
Source: IMF International Finance Statistics; UK, Central Statistical Office.

growth in excess of 2 per cent in the last two quarters. The volume of exports in 1978 was lower than in 1977, by about 2½ per cent, while the volume of imports was about 5 per cent higher. However, the visible trade surplus increased to a record $24.7 billion reflecting the continuing appreciation of the yen. There was a small increase in the deficit on invisibles but according to preliminary reports the current account surplus rose substantially from $10.92 billion in 1977 to $16.59 billion in 1978.

The consumer price index fell marginally in December following a 1 per cent fall in November and bringing the year-on-year increase for December to 3.5 per cent.

Unemployment, although relatively low compared with most other OECD countries, remains of concern. The average rate of 2.2 per cent in 1978 was slightly more than in 1977 and is reported as the highest for any year since those of 2.5 and 2.3 per cent in 1955 and 1956 respectively.

Germany

After a slow start to 1978, gnp growth accelerated to give an overall rise of 3.4 per cent compared with a rise of only 2.6 per cent in 1977. Industrial production like gnp grew faster in the second half than in the first. In the first nine months of 1978, compared with a year earlier, the volume of exports grew somewhat less quickly than that of imports. However, the trade surplus for the year as a whole grew to 41 billion marks reflecting the appreciation of the mark, while the current account surplus at 16.2 billion marks was almost double the previous year's figure.

Inflation in 1978 was 2.6 per cent higher than in 1977, the lowest rate for any year since the late 1960s.

Unemployment increased in January to a rate of 4.2 per cent having fallen in the previous four months.

France

The recovery in activity is thought to have continued if somewhat unsteadily during 1978. Compared with the previous quarters industrial production increased in the first two quarters, remained flat in the third and is reported to have increased again in the fourth. In contrast the trade position showed sustained improvement. Compared with a year earlier the volume of exports expanded rather more quickly than that of imports in the first half of 1978 and for the year as a whole the trade balance showed a surplus, the first for three years.

However, the government's policy of freezing industrial prices and increasing public util-

Table 3 **Unemployment** seasonally adjusted* — Numbers thousands

	Belgium [3]	Denmark [1,7]	France [1,8]	F.R. of Germany [1]	Ireland [3]	Italy [4,8,9]	Netherlands [1]	United Kingdom [1,2]	Canada [4]	United States [4]	Japan [4]
1974	105	*50*	498	583	48	*560*	135	600 [5]	521	5 076	740
1975	177	*124*	840	1 074	75	*654*	195	929	697	7 830	1 000
1976	229	*126*	933	1 060	84	*732*	211	1 270	736	7 288	1 080
1977	264	164	*1 073*	1 030	82	1 545	204	1 378	862	6 856	1 100
1978	282 e	185	*1 165*	990 e			206 e	1 376	926	6 026	
1976 1st quarter	213	*118*	929	1 136	82	*681*	211	1 220	703	7 224	1 072
2nd	227	*115*	928	1 040	84	*693*	209	1 261	728	7 111	1 102
3rd	238	*120*	925	1 031	85	*776*	217	1 300	748	7 363	1 101
4th	238	*126*	942	1 014	84	*777*	206	1 313	770	7 443	1 038
1977 1st quarter	246	147	997	1 018	82	1 459	197	1 330	826	7 161	1 032
2nd	261	156	1 069	1 025	83	1 432	200	1 341	852	6 889	1 110
3rd	276	163	1 149	1 054	83	1 692	213	1 415	878	6 736	1 150
4th	276	172	*1 073*	1 023	80	1 598	205	1 428	900	6 554	1 126
1978 1st quarter	275	185	*1 055*	1 014	78	1 520	197	1 409	910	6 155	1 146
2nd	285	183	*1 141*	984	76	1 455	201	1 373	943	5 962	1 267
3rd	288	185	1 251	1 008		1 658	216	1 380	938	6 054	1 313
4th	281 e	188	1 211	952 e		1 651	208 e	1 340	912	5 931	
1977 June	267	160	1 105	1 041	83		205	1 364	848	6 904	1 172
July	272	161	1 140	1 059	83		208	1 399	866	6 719	1 189
August	282	163	1 174	1 059	84		217	1 410	881	6 821	1 143
September	275	165	1 132	1 043	82		213	1 435	887	6 668	1 118
October	272	168	*1 097*	1 034	81		209	1 432	887	6 688	1 055
November	283	172	*1 068*	1 027	81		206	1 430	903	6 663	1 150
December	272	176	*1 054*	1 009	79		200	1 422	911	6 310	1 172
1978 January	274	181	*1 028*	1 002	78		199	1 419	891	6 226	1 112
February	274	183	*1 050*	1 028	77		196	1 409	901	6 090	1 150
March	278	191	*1 086*	1 012	77		197	1 400	938	6 148	1 175
April	282	184	*1 106*	978	77		196	1 387	935	5 983	1 198
May	289	182	1 132	987	76		201	1 366	949	6 149	1 273
June	286	182	1 186	989	74		205	1 365	944	5 754	1 329
July	286	183	1 241	1 009	74		210	1 371	927	6 193	1 304
August	295	185	1 277	1 020	76		222	1 392	941	5 968	1 305
September	283	187	1 235	997			218	1 378	946	6 002	1 331
October	280	187	1 215	981			214	1 360	910	5 870	1 233
November	287	188	1 200	950			207	1 339	919	5 912	1 295
December	277 e	190	1 219	925 e			204 e	1 321	908	6 012	
1979 January	277 e			959 e				1 339			
February								1 363			
Rate % latest month	10.3 e	8.8	6.5	4.2 e	10.4	7.5	5.1 e	5.7	8.1	5.9	2.3
% change latest three months											
On previous three months	−2.0	1.8	−3.2	−5.5	−2.6	−0.4	−3.8	−1.3	−2.7	−2.0	−2.0
On a year earlier	1.4	9.5	n.a.	−6.7	−10.4	3.3	1.6	−5.3	1.3	−9.5	16.1

*Unemployment data are defined and collected on different bases in different countries. The following notes indicate main variations preventing direct international comparison. [1] Numbers registered at employment offices. Rates are calculated as percentages of total employees. [2] Excluding school leavers. [3] Insured unemployed. Rates are calculated as percentages of total insured population. [4] Labour force sample survey. Rates are calculated as percentages of total labour force. The quarterly data for Italy relate to January, April, July and October. [5] Estimated in the absence of one month's figures. [6] From 1977, new method of calculating unemployment which is not consistent with the previous figures. [7] From 1977, including unemployed insured for loss of part time jobs. [8] Not seasonally adjusted. [9] Data from October 1977 to April 1978 are affected by administrative changes which tend to reduce the figures. e Estimated. n.a. Not available. Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators' and *Department of Employment Gazette*.

Table 4 Earnings/wages per head in manufacturing

Indices 1975 = 100

	Belgium [1]	Denmark [2 3]	France [4 r]	FR of Germany [1]	Ireland [5]	Italy [1]	Nether-lands [1]	Great Britain [4]	Canada [7 8]	United States [6]	Japan [8 9]
1974	84	84	88	92	78	79	88	79	86	92	90
1975	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1976	113	113	114	106	117	121	109	117	114	108	113
1977	123	124	127	114	135	155	117	129	126	117	123
1978			141 e								
1974 1st quarter	77	78	79	88	70	73	83	70	81	88	78
2nd	82	83	84	91	77	77	87	76	84	90	89
3rd	87	86	89	93	80	81	91	82	89	93	92
4th	91	9	92	94	84	85	91	88	92	96	94
1975 1st quarter	95	95	94	98	91	94	96	93	96	98	97
2nd	99	100	96	100	98	100	98	97	99	99	96
3rd	101	101	101	101	104	102	102	103	101	101	102
4th	105	105	103	101	108	104	103	108	104	103	103
1976 1st quarter	109	108	106	103	111	107	107	111	109	105	108
2nd	111	112	110	105	114	116	107	116	113	106	110
3rd	114	114	114	107	118	128	109	118	116	109	113
4th	116	118	118	107	126	133	111	122	118	112	117
1977 1st quarter	120	118	121	111	127	142	113	124	122	114	120
2nd	122	123	123	113	133	152	115	127	125	116	122
3rd	124	126	127	115	137	160	119	128	128	118	124
4th	126	129	131	115	143	165	119	135	130	121	126
1978 1st quarter	127	132	134	116	144	171	122	139	132	124	130
2nd	129	136	137	118		176	122	147	133	126	131
3rd	130	138	144	120		183	124	149	136	128	131
4th			147								
% change latest quarter											
On previous quarter	0.8	1.5	2.1	1.7	0.7	4.0	1.6	1.4	2.3	1.6	—
On a year earlier	4.8	9.5	12.2	4.3	13.4	14.4	4.2	16.4	6.3	8.5	5.6

[1] Hourly rates. [2] Hourly earnings. [3] Including mining. [4] Weekly earnings (all employees). [5] Gross hourly earnings per production worker. [6] Monthly earnings: regular workers. [7] Hourly earnings for firms employing 20 persons and over. [8] Seasonally adjusted. [9] Hourly rates manufacturing, adjusted for change in hours worked. Annual figures are centred by averaging data from January of current year to January of following year. r Revised.

Sources: All countries 'OECD Main Economic Indicators', except Great Britain (MEI and 'Department of Employment Gazette').

Table 5 Consumer prices All goods and services

Indices 1975 = 100

	Belgium	Luxem-bourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
1974	88.7	90.3	91.3	89.6	94.4	82.7	85.5	90.7	80.5	88.9	90.3	91.6	89.4	90.0
1975	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1976	109.2	109.8	109.0	109.6	104.5	118.0	116.8	108.8	116.5	110.3	107.5	105.8	109.3	108.6
1977	116.9	117.2	121.1	120.4	108.6	134.1	138.3	115.8	135.0	121.7	116.1	112.6	118.1	118.5
1978	122.1 e	120.8 e	133.3 e	131.2 e	111.5 e	144.3 e	155.0 e	120.6 e	146.2 e	130.5 e	126.5 e	121.3 e	122.6 e	128.3 e
1976 1st quarter	106.1	106.7	104.0	105.8	103.2	110.7	108.1	105.1	110.9	106.2	105.2	103.7	105.5	105.3
2nd	108.2	109.0	108.2	108.3	104.7	117.6	115.0	108.6	114.9	109.4	106.7	104.9	108.9	107.7
3rd	110.2	110.8	109.8	110.8	104.9	119.3	118.2	109.4	117.6	111.2	108.3	106.6	110.1	109.5
4th	112.1	112.7	114.1	113.6	105.4	124.4	125.7	112.1	123.0	114.5	109.9	107.8	112.8	111.9
1977 1st quarter	114.3	115.3	115.3	115.4	107.3	129.1	131.6	113.0	129.2	117.6	112.3	109.7	115.3	114.6
2nd	116.2	117.1	119.0	118.9	108.8	134.0	136.6	115.8	134.9	121.0	114.9	112.1	118.4	117.7
3rd	117.9	117.9	122.0	121.7	109.0	135.4	140.1	116.6	137.0	122.9	117.4	113.7	118.8	119.7
4th	119.3	118.4	128.3	124.1	109.3	137.8	144.8	117.8	139.0	124.8	119.9	115.0	119.8	121.8
1978 1st quarter	120.8	119.2	129.9	126.0	110.7	139.8	148.6	118.2	141.4	126.9	122.1	116.9	120.3	124.0
2nd	121.3	120.5	132.0	129.6	111.7	142.2	153.1	119.9	145.3	129.6	125.1	120.0	122.7	127.1
3rd	122.6	121.2	133.6	133.1	111.7	146.6	156.8	121.5	147.8	131.5	128.3	122.8	123.6	129.7
4th	123.8 e	122.3 e	137.5 e	135.9 e	111.7 e	148.7 e	161.6 e	122.6 e	150.3 e	133.8 e	130.3 e	125.3 e	123.9 e	132.4 e
1977 August	117.8	117.8	121.9	121.6	109.1	135.4	139.9	116.5	137.0	122.8	117.3	113.7	118.1	119.6
September	118.6	117.6	123.2	122.7	108.9		141.7	117.2	137.8	123.5	118.0	114.1	120.2	120.5
October	118.8	118.1	127.5	123.7	109.1		143.6	117.7	138.4	124.3	119.1	114.5	120.8	121.3
November	119.3	118.7	128.6	124.1	109.2	137.8	145.0	117.9	139.0	124.9	119.9	115.0	119.4	121.8
December	119.7	118.4	128.7	124.4	109.5		145.7	117.9	139.8	125.3	120.7	115.4	119.1	122.3
1978 January	120.3	119.0	129.2	125.0	110.2		146.9	117.5	140.6	126.0	121.2	116.1	119.6	123.1
February	120.8	119.2	129.8	126.0	110.8	139.8	148.4	118.0	141.4	126.8	121.9	116.9	120.1	124.0
March	121.1	119.6	130.7	127.1	111.1		150.3	119.0	142.3	127.7	123.3	117.7	121.2	125.0
April	121.2	120.2	131.2	128.4	111.4		151.8	119.8	144.4	128.8	123.6	118.8	122.5	126.1
May	121.4	120.4	132.3	129.7	111.7	142.2	153.2	120.0	145.2	129.6	125.3	119.9	123.2	127.2
June	121.4	120.8	132.6	130.7	112.0		154.5	119.9	146.3	130.3	126.4	121.2	122.5	128.1
July	122.1	121.0	132.9	132.3	112.0		155.4	120.8	147.0	131.1	128.3	122.0	123.0	129.0
August	122.6	121.1	133.5	133.0	111.7	146.6	156.2	121.4	147.9	131.5	128.4	122.7	123.1	129.7
September	123.1	121.3	134.4	133.9	111.4		158.7	122.3	148.5	132.3	128.2	123.6	124.6	130.7
October	123.4	122.0	136.9	135.2	111.4		160.1	122.6	149.2	133.0	129.5	124.6	124.8	131.7
November	123.8	122.4	137.7	135.9	111.7	148.7	161.8	122.6	150.2	133.8 e	130.5	125.3	123.5	132.4 e
December	124.3 e	122.4 e	137.8 e	136.5 e	112.1 e		163.0 e	122.5 e	151.5	134.5 e	130.8 e	126.0 e	123.3 e	133.1 e
1979 January	125.0 e				113.3 e				153.7					
Percentage change														
Latest month on same month a year earlier	3.9	3.4	7.1	9.7	2.8	7.9	11.9	3.9	9.3	7.3	8.4	9.2	3.5	8.8
Latest three months on previous three months	1.1	0.9	2.9	2.1	0.8	1.4	3.1	0.9	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.1	0.2	2.0
Latest three months on a year earlier	3.8	3.3	7.2	9.5	2.5	7.9	11.7	4.0	8.6	7.2	8.6	9.0	3.4	8.7

e Estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

ity prices, together with a devaluation of the green franc, have contributed to a higher rate of inflation, with an increase in consumer prices of 9.7 per cent in the 12 months to December 1978.

Unemployment remains a serious problem. In December and January there were increases in the numbers unemployed (seasonally adjusted) following falls in the previous three months.

Italy

The beginning of 1978 saw a recovery from nine months of recession with gdp and industrial production both rising substantially. There was a slow down in the second and third quarters with gdp little changed and industrial production falling in the second quarter and recovering partially in the third. However, industrial production appears to have recovered appreciably in the fourth quarter. In the first nine months of 1978 the volume of exports rose by about 4½ per cent while that of imports was about the same as a year earlier; and the terms of trade improved. The trade balance accordingly improved considerably and a surplus for the year as a whole has been reported.

The year-on-year rise in consumer prices fell during 1978, from 15.2 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1977 to 11.6 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1978, but remains the highest of the main OECD countries.

Unemployment remained high throughout 1978.

Exports of manufactures

Information as is available for the full year 1978 on the dollar value of exports of manufactures indicates a greater annual increase than in the previous year for Germany and, in particular, for the United States. The increase for the UK was also marginally larger. Although complete information on shares is not available it would appear that the UK probably at least maintained the share achieved in 1977. By volume, however, where information is even less complete, the UK increase of 2 per cent is likely to be rather less than that for all the main manufacturers combined.

Special note to table 13

Comparisons of trade in manufactures in 1978 with earlier periods may be misleading. A number of countries are now classifying their trade according to SITC (Rev 2). Countries whose figures are known to be on this classification from 1 January 1978 are United States, the Federal Republic of Germany, United Kingdom, Sweden and the Netherlands. The Netherlands publishes a conversion table which has been used to convert their statistics to the new classification. There have been other changes to the United Kingdom's exter-

Table 6 World trade

Because of problems with the data table 6 does not appear; it will be reinstated as soon as possible. Meanwhile users requiring information are asked to telephone 01-215 5721 or write to the address shown at the end of the text.

Table 7 Industrial countries' trade

Seasonally adjusted

US $ thousand million

	Exports (fob) to			Imports (cif)[2] from		
	World	OECD	Rest of world [1]	World	OECD	Rest of world [1]
1974	532.93	380.65	152.28	583.08	390.95	192.13
1975	567.80	384.53	183.27	587.38	400.06	187.32
1976	630.49	440.16	190.33	676.31	453.28	223.03
1977	715.10	497.09	218.01	765.94	509.26	256.68
1976 1st quarter	147.31	101.87	45.44	154.94	104.49	50.45
2nd	153.13	107.12	46.01	162.04	108.95	53.09
3rd	160.67	112.91	47.76	173.05	114.91	58.14
4th	166.88	117.54	49.34	182.87	122.13	60.74
1977 1st quarter	171.56	120.38	51.18	186.29	122.60	63.69
2nd	175.75	122.51	53.24	190.47	125.88	64.59
3rd	180.47	125.40	55.07	192.68	128.00	64.68
4th	188.89	129.83	59.06	198.21	133.01	65.20
1978 1st quarter [3]	195.17	134.52	60.65	205.01	139.85	65.16
2nd	208.99	144.32	64.67	214.21	148.42	65.79
3rd	218.14	151.02	67.12	224.09	155.08	69.01

[1] Include goods for which no destination is given. [2] Imports into Canada and the United States are valued fob. [3] See table 9 note 5.
Source: 'OECD Series "A" '.

Table 8 Exports (fob) Special trade [1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark [2]	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland [2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom [2r]	EEC	Canada	United States [2]	Japan [2]	OECD
1974	28 260	7 716	45 900	89 160	2 628	30 288	32 436	38 827	275 100	32 784	98 508	55 536	532 932
1975	28 812	8 712	52 212	90 024	3 216	34 824	34 440	44 270	295 992	32 304	107 652	55 752	567 804
1976	32 844	9 108	55 812	102 036	3 312	36 924	38 748	47 251	325 044	38 628	114 996	67 224	630 492
1977	37 488	10 068	63 516	117 936	4 392	45 036	43 680	58 179	379 620	41 556	120 168	80 496	715 104
1978								71 729					
1976 1st quarter	7 404	2 120	13 272	23 280	740	8 475	8 907	11 630	75 618	9 099	27 219	15 564	147 309
2nd	7 746	2 225	13 851	24 609	818	8 862	8 883	11 446	78 165	9 543	28 660	16 467	153 129
3rd	8 217	2 340	14 007	26 148	837	9 414	9 909	11 748	82 507	9 822	29 384	17 037	160 668
4th	9 144	2 445	14 586	27 456	886	9 972	11 001	12 146	87 727	9 576	29 450	17 787	166 884
1977 1st quarter	9 069	2 532	15 108	27 897	962	10 467	10 623	13 287	89 492	10 359	29 786	19 479	171 558
2nd	9 123	2 357	15 252	28 788	1 014	11 481	10 536	14 247	92 571	10 179	30 574	19 710	175 752
3rd	9 261	2 526	16 242	29 541	1 200	10 971	11 220	15 275	96 152	10 374	30 609	20 181	180 465
4th	9 849	2 709	17 465	32 048	1 226	12 064	11 635	15 482	102 812	10 477	29 485	21 237	188 887
1978 1st quarter[4]	10 252	2 676	17 325	32 394	1 364	11 520	11 978	17 122	103 793	10 756	31 083	23 898	195 180
2nd	10 354	2 885	18 362	34 755	1 329	13 693	11 952	16 715	109 962	11 458	35 807	23 834	208 992
3rd	11 172	3 033	19 998	35 746	1 484	12 825	12 916	18 440	116 053	11 415	37 780	24 882	218 127
4th								19 500					
1977 August	2 989	846	5 411	9 861	397	3 850	3 844	4 960	32 170	3 432	9 479	6 661	59 546
September	3 293	861	5 670	10 199	405	3 571	3 709	5 163	32 885	3 421	10 884	6 610	61 593
October	3 083	835	5 765	10 369	345	3 548	3 670	5 132	32 724	3 453	9 174	6 773	59 840
November	3 173	890	5 488	10 197	418	3 999	3 776	4 967	33 268	3 074	9 093	7 145	60 620
December	3 593	984	6 212	11 482	463	4 517	4 189	5 383	36 820	3 950	11 218	7 319	68 427
1978 January [5]	3 641	885	5 650	10 942	493	3 717	4 044	5 369	34 455	3 252	10 150 e	7 784	64 238 e
February	3 228	947	5 724	10 772	417	3 962	4 083	6 068	34 822	3 939	10 036 e	8 154	65 611 e
March	3 383	844	5 951	10 680	454	3 841	3 851	5 685	34 516	3 565	10 897 e	7 960	65 331 e
April	3 683	998	6 467	12 108	466	4 881	4 084	5 607	38 081	4 373	11 975	7 857	71 652
May	3 319	891	5 820	10 354	412	4 478	3 958	5 528	34 615	3 564	11 720	7 994	66 778
June	3 352	996	6 075	12 293	451	4 334	3 910	5 580	37 266	3 521	12 112	7 983	70 562
July	3 626	878	6 504	10 664	458	4 036	4 112	5 990	36 225	3 603	12 054	7 958	68 499
August	3 726	1 044	6 384	11 996	477	4 275	4 245	6 203	38 624	3 643	12 272	8 252	72 358
September	3 820	1 111	7 110	13 086	549	4 514	4 559	6 247	41 204	4 169	13 454	8 672	77 270
October	4 313	1 090	7 317	13 521	453	5 226	4 566	6 526	43 505	3 787	12 963	8 347	78 625
November		1 074	7 135	12 980	552			6 427		4 196	12 870		
December								6 547					
1979 January								6 037					

[1] See notes to table 9.
r revised.

Source: United Kingdom. Department of Trade; all others: 'OECD Series "A" '.

nal trade statistics details of which were given in an article in *Trade and Industry* of 10 February 1978. Under SITC (Rev 2) there has been a change in the coverage of manufactured goods. The magnitude of the change is indicated in the table below for countries which have published figures on both SITC (R) and SITC (Rev 2) for one year.

EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURES (SITC 5-8) US$ billion

	SITC (R) 1977	SITC (Rev 2) 1977
United States [1]	80.45	80.15
United Kingdom	46.77	47.43
Netherlands	23.87	23.79 e
Sweden	15.59	15.36

[1] Includes special category exports. e Estimated.

Inquiries: DTIPCP Common Services, Room 241A, 1 Victorial Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 3126.

Price Index Numbers for Current Cost Accounting

Price Index Numbers for Current Cost Accounting, prepared by the Central Statistical Office, is a booklet of price indices for companies and others who wish to prepare accounts or supplementary statements on the current cost basis. It is specified as a source of indices for the United Kingdom in the interim recommendation issued in November 1977 by the Accounting Standards Committee.

It presents all the available industry and asset-specific price indices likely to be useful for revaluing fixed assets, and includes the index of the cost of new construction and the general index of retail prices.

Tables 11 and 12 have been withdrawn while alternative sources and methods are being investigated. Further information may be obtained from Department of Trade, ECS5A4, Room 243A, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1, tel. 01-215 5721.

Table 9 **Imports** (cif) Special trade [1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark [2]	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland [2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom [2]	r EEC	Canada [4]	United States [2] [4]	Japan	OECD
1974	29 700	9 852	52 824	68 976	3 816	40 968	33 204	54 344	293 568	32 292	100 968	62 112	583 080
1975	30 708	10 332	54 240	74 208	3 804	38 364	35 148	53 618	300 048	33 960	96 936	57 864	587 376
1976	35 352	12 420	64 392	87 780	4 200	43 368	39 948	57 044	343 428	37 956	121 788	64 800	676 308
1977	40 248	13 260	70 488	100 704	5 388	47 556	45 600	64 545	386 940	39 540	147 852	70 812	765 936
1978								78 652					
1976 1st quarter	7 656	2 823	14 925	19 836	999	9 984	8 826	13 532	78 602	9 249	27 308	14 946	154 935
2nd	7 995	3 000	15 495	20 967	994	10 644	9 378	14 008	82 413	9 567	29 290	15 546	162 039
3rd	8 427	3 165	16 413	22 475	1 068	10 737	10 086	14 500	86 680	9 582	32 024	16 863	173 049
4th	9 174	3 330	17 493	24 078	1 121	11 859	11 607	14 611	93 334	9 486	32 652	17 256	182 874
1977 1st quarter	9 513	3 317	17 409	24 170	1 258	11 781	11 292	15 670	94 292	9 885	35 405	17 664	186 291
2nd	9 483	3 240	17 196	24 116	1 271	12 276	11 214	16 517	95 020	10 119	37 721	17 484	190 467
3rd	9 414	3 385	17 721	25 593	1 422	11 010	11 514	16 036	95 811	9 948	37 600	17 832	192 681
4th	10 143	3 344	18 658	27 435	1 481	12 458	11 816	16 297	101 804	9 840	37 640	18 099	198 207
1978 1st quarter [5]	11 066	3 411	19 018	28 054	1 551	11 637	12 317	18 977	105 698	9 694	40 778	18 444	205 014
2nd	10 844	3 530	19 609	28 977	1 722	13 147	12 636	18 754	108 911	11 202	43 200	18 840	214 213
3rd	11 755	3 796	20 735	30 326	1 946	13 406	13 535	20 239	116 017	10 865	44 570	20 218	224 088
4th								20 681					
1977 August	3 390	1 137	6 052	8 393	468	3 736	3 963	5 127	32 140	3 257	12 167	6 067	64 609
September	3 171	1 175	5 975	8 594	493	3 574	3 762	5 423	32 161	3 364	12 652	5 978	64 311
October	3 148	1 089	5 944	8 557	472	4 144	3 741	5 417	32 562	3 268	11 954	5 769	63 591
November	3 390	1 092	5 429	8 773	477	3 910	3 911	4 956	33 321	2 961	11 581	6 006	64 162
December	3 605	1 163	6 285	10 105	532	4 404	4 164	5 924	35 921	3 611	14 105	6 324	70 454
1978 January [5]	3 723	1 147	6 503	9 824	582	3 700	4 171	6 257	35 935	3 024	12 582	6 234	68 122
February	3 719	1 134	6 137	9 252	505	4 035	4 202	6 163	34 776	3 711	14 848	6 311	69 989
March	3 624	1 130	6 378	8 978	464	3 902	3 944	6 557	34 987	2 959	13 348	5 899	66 903
April	3 593	1 184	6 724	10 104	528	4 562	4 410	5 666	36 408	4 275	15 328	6 549	73 360
May	3 685	1 166	6 491	9 050	593	4 672	4 237	6 562	36 429	3 403	14 165	6 576	70 959
June	3 566	1 180	6 394	9 823	601	3 913	3 989	6 526	36 074	3 524	13 707	5 715	69 894
July	3 693	1 117	6 534	9 686	593	5 027	4 425	6 522	37 528	3 707	15 643	6 314	73 474
August	4 096	1 335	6 968	9 931	685	4 062	4 569	6 698	38 549	3 408	13 618	6 792	73 433
September	3 966	1 344	7 233	10 709	668	4 317	4 541	7 019	39 940	3 750	15 309	7 112	77 181
October	4 334	1 385	7 623	11 302	678	5 066	4 956	6 861	42 651	3 865	15 263	7 089	81 301
November		1 351	7 815	11 089	691			6 992		3 791	14 785		
December								6 828					
1979 January								6 597					

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [4] fob. [5] In these tables, from January 1978, the trade of Ireland, United Kingdom, United States, Italy and Japan are classified according to SITC Rev 2. The changes are described in an article in 'Trade and Industry' 10 February 1978, which also gives for the UK an indication of the magnitude of the change. It is thought that other countries have also adopted this classification from the beginning of 1978, but the extent of the discontinuity has not been ascertained. Percentage changes may be misleading and have therefore been omitted. r revised. e estimate

Source: United Kingdom, Department of Trade; all others: 'OECD Series "A".

Table 10 **Balance of payments on current account**

US $ million (unadjusted)

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan
1974	911	−981	−5 943	9 803	−672	−8 040	1 961	−8 393	−11 359	−1 487	1 720	−4 692
1975	705	−491	−2	4 059	−25	−555	2 001	−4 204	1 488	−4 696	18 456	−681
1976	−294	−1 909	−6 048	3 903	−261	−2 855	2 691	−2 017	−6 790	−3 839	4 339	3 681
1977	−373	−1 648	−3 302	3 799		2 285	246	768		−3 930	−15 276	10 911
1975 1st quarter	558	−82	−372	2 269		−511	136	−1 674		−1 857	4 596	−926
2nd	76	52	949	821		119	922	−949		−1 102	5 613	−300
3rd	−96	−78	−124	−394		870	278	−1 352		−659	2 009	−22
4th	165	−383	−456	1 363		−1 035	665	− 229		−1 079	6 237	566
1976 1st quarter	−370	−592	−1 319	1 376		−1 410	866	−212		−1 810	2 679	−110
2nd	29	−417	−531	904		−1 330	377	−701		−1 066	2 681	943
3rd	−294	−396	−2 478	−336		864	484	−650		−17	−2 396	983
4th	336	−504	−1 720	1 954		−977	963	−454		−949	1 376	1 865
1977 1st quarter	86	−481	−1 636	940		−1 025	166	−888		−1 484	−2 342	889
2nd	−173	−395	−476	1 090		336	−144	−481		−1 173	−2 501	2 181
3rd	−375	−397	−1 193	−2 033		2 298	−192	1 044		−512	−5 194	3 261
4th	89	−374	6	3 803		675	414	1 092		−762	−5 236	4 581
1978 1st quarter	−78	−508	−183	1 576		288	−264	−1 068		−1 193	−6 388	3 964
2nd	−258	−89	1 870	1 944		1 778	−263	391		−1 073	−2 650	4 579
3rd		−252		−760				−6		−495	−6 345	5 126

Source: United Kingdom Economic Trends. All others: IMF International Financial Statistics.

Table 13 Exports of manufactures by the main manufacturing countries [1]

	Canada	United States [1] [2]	Japan	Sweden [3]	Switzerland	Belgium/ Luxembourg	France	FR of Germany [3]	Italy	Nether-lands [3]	United Kingdom [3] (seasonally adjusted)	Total [1] (seasonally adjusted)	UK share per cent
Value US $ thousand million (fob)													
1974	16.52	62.26	52.50	12.12	10.91	23.03	33.60	78.95	24.88	18.95	32.02	365.78	8.8
1975	16.68	69.46	53.17	13.84	12.04	22.80	40.12	79.62	29.14	19.32	36.58	392.78	9.3
1976	20.65	75.95	64.58	14.77	13.66	26.04	43.01	90.73	31.18	22.32	38.54	441.41	8.7
1977	23.08	78.92	77.70	15.59	16.15	29.34	49.71	104.35	38.01	23.77	46.77	503.39	9.3
1978		91.97						125.23			57.59		
1975 1st quarter	3.97	16.89	12.51	3.54	2.95	6.16	10.25	19.78	6.92	4.86	9.37	99.24	9.4
2nd	4.35	17.93	13.04	3.77	3.13	6.00	10.98	21.02	7.28	5.13	9.11	98.67	9.2
3rd	3.73	16.48	13.14	2.91	2.71	4.72	8.62	18.40	7.19	4.16	8.77	94.97	9.2
4th	4.63	18.16	14.48	3.62	3.25	5.92	10.27	20.41	7.76	5.16	9.33	99.89	9.3
1976 1st quarter	4.63	18.22	13.80	3.51	3.08	6.07	10.40	20.80	6.81	5.01	9.58	104.64	9.2
2nd	5.58	19.94	15.75	3.68	3.44	6.64	11.23	21.90	7.46	5.31	9.49	106.62	8.9
3rd	4.99	17.96	16.79	3.46	3.20	5.86	9.62	22.26	7.84	5.38	9.60	111.79	8.6
4th	5.44	19.83	18.23	4.12	3.95	7.47	11.75	25.77	9.07	6.61	9.88	118.36	8.3
1977 1st quarter	5.58 p	19.40	17.09	3.92	3.61	7.28 p	12.04 p	24.74	8.45 p	5.88 p	10.55	121.76 p	8.7
2nd	6.19 p	20.59	18.98	4.05	3.81	7.55 p	12.69 p	25.41	9.62 p	5.89 p	11.54	121.94 p	9.5
3rd	5.18 p	19.13	19.87	3.23	3.84	6.62 p	11.29 p	24.85	9.12 p	5.66 p	12.20	126.51 p	9.6
4th	6.13 p	19.80	21.76	4.40	4.88	7.88 p	13.69 p	29.35	10.82 p	6.34 p	12.49	133.18 p	9.4
1978 1st quarter	5.91 p	20.12	21.16	3.97	4.93 p	8.55 p	13.87 p	28.68	9.17 p	6.71 p	13.90		
2nd	7.35 p	23.39	22.93	4.50	5.21 p	8.63 p	15.31 p	30.42	11.59 p	6.77 p	13.41		
3rd	6.04 p	22.71		3.91	5.45 p	7.90 p	13.72 p	29.80		6.59 p	14.69		
4th		25.75 p						36.33 p			15.59		
Volume index 1975 = 100													
1974	105	104	99	106	108	109	102	112	100	108	103	105	
1975	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
1976	113	102	126	102	111	115	109	114	114	116	109	112	
1977	126	101	137	102	124	119	118	119	123	113	118	117	
1978											120		
1975 1st quarter	92	99	89	101	93	100	102	96	93	94	100	98	
2nd	104	103	95	104	102	101	104	102	99	101	98	98	
3rd	92	95	100	88	95	87	88	95	100	91	98	99	
4th	112	103	117	107	110	112	104	108	109	115	104	105	
1976 1st quarter	102	101	114	101	103	111	106	109	105	109	105	109	
2nd	121	108	126	104	112	120	114	113	115	113	109	110	
3rd	109	97	129	96	104	104	98	111	111	113	109	112	
4th	122	104	133	106	126	125	120	122	126	128	112	115	
1977 1st quarter	118 p	102	127	99	118	121 p	118 p	116 p	114 p	114 p	114	117 p	
2nd	133 p	107	137	104	122	124 p	123 p	118 p	126 p	113 p	118	115 p	
3rd	114 p	97	140	85	119	107 p	105 p	112 p	116 p	108 p	123	117 p	
4th	137 p	98	145	119	139	125 p	125 p	128 p	135 p	118 p	117	119 p	
1978 1st quarter	124 p	99	137	102	128 p	127 p	124 p	118	109 p	112 p	119	120 p	
2nd			132	110	132 p	120 p	130 p	125		113 p	119		
3rd								118			121		
4th											122		
Unit value index in US $ 1975 = 100													
1977 weights	0.0401	0.1487	0.1674	0.0393	0.0360	0.0616	0.1131	0.2564	0.0852	0.0524		Weighted average ex UK	Ratio of UK to weighted average
1974	94	86	99	82	84	92	82	88	85	91	86	89	96.2
1975	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100.0
1976	109	107	97	104	102	99	98	100	94	99	98	100	97.9
1977	110	113	106	111	108	108	105	110	106	109	113	109	103.2
1978											136		
1975 1st quarter	104	98	105	101	105	108	100	104	102	107	102	103	99.5
2nd	100	100	103	105	102	104	105	104	101	105	102	103	99.1
3rd	97	100	98	96	95	95	98	97	99	95	98	98	100.3
4th	99	102	93	98	98	93	98	95	98	93	98	97	101.2
1976 1st quarter	109	104	91	100	99	96	98	96	89	95	100	97	103.4
2nd	111	106	94	102	102	97	98	97	89	97	96	99	97.0
3rd	110	107	98	104	102	99	98	101	97	99	99	101	98.0
4th	107	110	103	112	104	105	98	106	99	107	98	105	93.4
1977 1st quarter	113	110	101	114	102	106	102	107	102	107	105	106	99.0
2nd	112	111	104	112	104	107	103	108	105	108	110	107	102.5
3rd	109	114	107	110	107	109	107	111	108	109	114	110	103.8
4th	107	116	113	107	117	111	109	115	110	111	121	113	107.5
1978 1st quarter	114	117	116	113	128	118	112	122	115	124	132	118	111.2
2nd			131	118	131	126	117	122		124	129	123 p	104.6 p
3rd								127			139		
4th											146		

[1] See special note at end of text. [2] Excluding 'special category exports' for which detailed information on countries of destination is withheld by the United States authorities. [3] SITC (rev 2) from 1 January 1978. p Provisional.

Sources: Values. United Kingdom and total: DTI. Other countries: OECD updated from national sources. Volume. Derived from the value figures and the unit value index numbers. Unit values. United Kingdom and total: DTI. Other countries: United Nations.-The weighting reflects the relative importance of each country in UK's overseas markets. The ratio indicates the UK competitive position.

Census of production, 1973-77: estimates of regional capital expenditure

The table brings together, from censuses of production, data on net capital expenditure in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and the eight standard regions of England for the years 1973 to 1977. The estimates of capital expenditure for 1976 to 1977 are provisional.

The standard regions for statistical purposes, including this analysis, coincide with the economic planning regions. The boundaries of the economic planning regions in England were adjusted on 1 April 1974 to take account of local government reorganisation under the Local Government Act 1972. The figures for 1973 are on the basis of the regions as they existed before 1 April 1974; those for 1974 to 1977 are on the new basis.

Inquiries about the annual census of production should be made to the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG, tel. 0633 56111, ext. 2455.

Summary volumes of annual censuses of production 1974 and 1975 PA 1002

Summary results of the 1974 and 1975 censuses of production are being issued in two separate volumes.

Volume 1 Business Monitor PA 1002, containing information relating to manufacturing establishments, was published by HMSO on 9 February and is available from government bookshops or through booksellers price £4.50. This shows results for 1974 and 1975 and comparative data for 1971 to 1973 on total sales and work done, cost of purchases, net output, gross value added, employment, wages and salaries, capital expenditure and stocks and work in progress.

The second volume is expected to be published around mid-1979 and will show tables analysing census data by enterprise including an analysis of public and private enterprises, analyses of the private sector's 100 largest enterprises defined by size of employment, net output, turnover and information about foreign owned enterprises. Separate reports for each of the 161 census industries are published as Business Monitors PA 101 to PA 603.

Explanatory notes and definitions of the main terms used in all census of production publications are given in Business Monitor PA 1001 – introductory notes.

Inquiries about the PA series of Business Monitors and on the censuses generally can be obtained from the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG, tel. 0633 56111 ext. 2455.

Net capital expenditure by industry groups [1] [2]

All manufacturing industries: all establishments in the United Kingdom

£ million

	Food, drink and tobacco	Coal, petroleum, chemical products and metal manufacture	Engineering and allied industries	Textiles, leather and clothing	Other manufacturing industries	All manufacturing industries
Orders	III	IV-VI	VII-XII	XIII-XV	XVI-XIX	III-XIX
United Kingdom						
1973	358.3	543.2	676.7	232.1	472.1	2 282.3
1974	462.9	822.8	967.2	268.6	550.8	3 072.4
1975	451.4	1 291.5	1 045.0	229.1	519.0	3 535.8
1976 [3]	530.1	1 424.9	1 228.9	234.5	626.3	4 044.7
1977 [3]	716.8	1 490.2	1 645.8	251.7	884.9	4 989.4
Standard regions						
North						
1973	18.7	87.2	34.1	22.5	23.9	186.4
1974	17.8	187.5	53.1	25.3	26.0	309.6
1975	16.4	334.2	63.5	20.7	26.9	461.7
1976 [3]	25.6	351.4	55.8	15.5	30.5	478.8
1977 [3]	34.3	411.4	74.2	11.7	63.2	594.8
Yorkshire and Humberside						
1973	31.0	76.2	48.3	43.9	44.1	243.4
1974	38.0	141.5	65.0	50.7	55.7	350.9
1975	44.6	226.1	74.7	45.8	49.7	440.9
1976 [3]	46.4	227.6	90.4	45.6	57.6	467.6
1977 [3]	59.1	183.7	124.5	52.7	73.6	493.6
East Midlands						
1973	28.3	19.0	36.1	28.2	30.1	141.8
1974	31.0	31.7	52.2	32.0	39.2	186.0
1975	36.0	37.9	60.0	26.5	36.6	197.0
1976 [3]	41.0	62.9	91.3	35.5	59.6	290.3
1977 [3]	72.8	66.9	95.2	34.1	61.8	330.8
East Anglia						
1973	17.2	4.9	18.1	1.5	17.1	58.8
1974	26.3	7.5	24.3	1.8	19.6	79.4
1975	22.7	9.5	29.1	2.0	17.7	81.0
1976 [3]	25.4	13.2	32.0	1.5	17.4	89.6
1977 [3]	47.9	14.8	51.9	5.7	24.6	144.9
South east						
1973	72.5	87.0	196.6	11.9	138.4	506.4
1974	107.9	101.6	266.4	17.7	157.9	651.5
1975	98.5	121.6	278.4	13.5	144.3	656.4
1976 [3]	129.6	156.4	337.0	18.7	191.8	833.6
1977 [3]	163.2	177.2	494.4	26.2	237.8	1 098.8
South west						
1973	30.7	10.8	39.4	4.4	26.9	112.2
1974	38.5	18.9	61.0	8.2	33.0	159.6
1975	28.5	15.4	65.6	5.5	30.2	145.2
1976 [3]	35.2	17.1	66.3	6.1	39.0	163.8
1977 [3]	52.1	24.2	107.9	7.1	60.0	251.3
West Midlands						
1973	32.4	39.8	105.7	8.4	54.4	240.7
1974	34.6	56.7	197.0	8.0	59.9	356.3
1975	36.8	75.7	205.1	7.6	50.4	375.5
1976 [3]	46.8	80.8	224.9	9.3	67.4	429.2
1977 [3]	57.8	81.0	284.4	9.7	91.7	524.6
North west						
1973	48.4	61.9	91.6	51.6	68.3	321.7
1974	65.9	92.9	110.0	61.1	72.6	402.5
1975	51.5	125.7	118.2	44.9	70.9	411.3
1976 [3]	66.0	161.8	154.0	53.7	75.3	510.8
1977 [3]	87.3	175.4	185.0	54.5	102.2	604.4
England						
1973	279.3	386.8	569.9	172.5	403.1	1 811.4
1974	359.9	638.1	829.0	204.7	464.0	2 495.8
1975	335.0	946.2	894.6	166.4	426.6	2 768.9
1976 [3]	416.0	1 071.3	1 052.0	185.9	538.6	3 263.8
1977 [3]	574.5	1 134.6	1 417.5	201.7	714.9	4 043.2
Wales						
1973	7.4	104.9	28.5	9.0	18.8	168.7
1974	8.1	100.6	37.8	10.0	25.5	181.9
1975	14.3	173.0	35.4	8.6	17.8	249.1
1976 [3]	19.2	224.7	47.9	7.9	20.4	320.0
1977 [3]	24.7	167.5	59.2	11.0	31.3	293.7
Scotland						
1973	56.1	49.6	63.2	19.4	41.4	229.8
1974	80.0	80.5	78.6	22.2	48.8	309.9
1975	86.1	164.6	94.6	19.3	60.8	425.6
1976 [3]	71.4	121.0	112.6	22.2	50.4	377.5
1977 [3]	90.7	185.6	149.7	22.5	114.1	562.6
Northern Ireland						
1973	15.4	1.9	15.1	31.2	8.7	72.3
1974	15.0	3.6	22.0	31.7	12.5	84.9
1975	15.9	7.5	20.3	34.7	13.8	92.2
1976 [3]	23.4	8.0	16.7	18.6	16.9	83.5
1977 [3]	26.9	2.5	19.4	16.5	24.6	89.9

[1] Net capital expenditure: new building work plus acquisitions less disposals of land and existing buildings, plant and machinery and vehicles. Capital expenditure in respect of establishments where production had not commenced before the end of the year, is included. [2] Industry groups: orders or combinations of orders in the Standard Industrial Classification (revised 1968). [3] Provisional estimates: figures for 1976 were originally published in *Trade and Industry*, 17 March 1978.

Regional selective assistance

The tables show on a regional basis, the number and value of applications received and offers made under section 7 of the Industry Act during September, October, November and December 1978.

Inquiries: 01-212 0364.

Region	Applications		Offers	
	No. of projects	Value (£'000)	No. of projects	Value (£'000)
September 1978				
Scotland	12	4 778	16	1 828
Wales	17	9 170	18	1 368
Northern	10	1 383	10	801
North west	25	8 590	21	1 463
Yorkshire and Humberside	19	4 067	11	187
South west	2	7 670	3	99
East Midlands	4	271	9	112
West Midlands	–	–	–	–
Total	89	35 929	88	5 858
October 1978				
Scotland	12	1 572	13	1 833
Wales	18	5 488	14	843
Northern	22	6 148	15	2 429
North west	29	7 150	17	895
Yorkshire and Humberside	10	1 271	10	608
South west	1	116	4	2 356
East Midlands	7	1 264	4	53
West Midlands	–	–	1	3
Total	99	23 009	78	9 020
November 1978				
Scotland	17	8 649	16	804
Wales	23	7 220	11	661
Northern	12	4 097	10	8 880
North west	28	14 090	26	2 240
Yorkshire and Humberside	21	6 901	23	906
South west	3	594	2	242
East Midlands	7	488	7	77
West Midlands	–	–	–	–
Total	111	42 039	95	13 810
December 1978				
Scotland	7	5 693	7	511
Wales	12	4 071	8	3 524
Northern	11	9 604	17	2 332
North west	21	9 528	14	1 452
Yorkshire and Humberside	4	1 758	7	367
South west	2	88	1	74
East Midlands	–	–	4	75
West Midlands	–	–	–	–
Total	57	30 742	58	8 335

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Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the library at the Business Statistics Office, Newport, Gwent NPY 1XG, tel. 0633 56111, ext. 2973 telex 497121 – answer back BSONPT G.

Census of production 1977: provisional results and operating ratios for manufacturing and construction industries

The censuses of production for 1974 to 1977 covered establishments in Great Britain engaged in manufacturing, mining and quarrying, construction, electricity, gas and water supply (orders II to XXI of the standard industrial classification (revised 1968)). A return was required in the 1977 census from each establishment with 20 or more employees. In the construction industry, where firms employing less than 20 account for a relatively high proportion of total employment and output, a sample was taken of establishments with less than 20 employees.

The figures in the table are provisional estimates of some of the principal results of the 1977 census of production for the manufacturing and construction industries. The estimates for non-respondents, unsatisfactory returns and establishments with less than 20 employees which are not required to make returns. The results for 1974 and 1975 are final. Although the 1976 results shown in the table are mainly those given in the provisional results for that year some improved estimates have been included. Final results of the 1977 census, including analyses by size of establishment and by region will appear in 164 separate industry Business Monitors. Publication of the monitors will begin in the fourth quarter of 1979. Compilation of the final results for the 1974 and 1975 censuses has been completed and most of the final industry monitors have been published. It is planned that publication of the 1976 industry reports will commence in the first quarter of 1979. Summary tables of the 1974 and 1975 final results on an establishment basis were published on 9 February 1979. Enterprise-based tables are being prepared for publication around mid 1979.

Operating ratios

Operating ratios are introduced into provisional results in (table 4 Business Monitor PA 1000) for the first time following the publication of 1976 operating ratios[1]. The ratios shown in the table are provisional estimates only; final figures for these ratios will appear in the 1977 industry Business Monitors.

A Business Monitor PA 1000 (HMSO, price £2) will shortly be available and will provide information for the same years but with more detailed headings for each of the industries in the manufacturing sector together with those in order II (mining and quarrying), order XX (construction) and order XXI (gas, electricity and water).

The 1977 census of production is the eighth in the annual series taken for Great Britain by the Department of Industry's Business Statistics Office under the Statistics of Trade Act 1947 and for Northern Ireland by the Department of Commerce, Belfast, under the Statistics of Trade (Northern Ireland) Act 1949. The information collected separately for Northern Ireland is included in the United Kingdom totals published in this table and in the Business Monitors. Censuses of production form part of a system of industrial statistics mainly brought into operation between 1970 and 1973. The rest of the system comprises selected monthly inquiries into manufacturers' sales, orders and production, quarterly inquiries into product sales of manufacturing industries and less frequent inquiries into additional subjects including details of purchases of goods and services by industry. The main objective of the series of annual censuses is to provide information about the structure of industry which will be useful to industry, economic analysts and government alike. The censuses make possible the comparison of the characteristics of an industry either between years or with other industries in the same year, and with industry in other member countries of the European Economic Community which are conducting similar inquiries.

Inquiries: Information on the PA series of Business Monitors and on the censuses generally can be obtained from the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent, NPT 1XG, tel. Newport 56111 (STD code 0633) ext. 2455.

Explanation of terms

Employment relates to the average number of persons on the payroll during the year of return, whether full or part-time employees, including working proprietors.

In the calculation of gross output the value of total sales and work done is increased by the rise (or reduced by the fall) during the year in the value of work in progress and goods on hand for sale.

Net output, a customary census measure, is calculated by deducting from gross output, the cost of purchases (reduced by the rise or increased by the fall, during the year of stocks of materials, etc) and the cost of industrial services received, and where applicable, duties etc.

Gross value added at factor cost is calculated by deducting from net output the cost of non-industrial services (eg rent of buildings and capital equipment, commercial insurance premiums, bank charges and amounts paid for professional services, post office services, transport and advertising), rates (excluding water rates) and the cost of licensing motor vehicles. This estimate of gross value added approaches more closely than census net output to the definition of net output or value added in national accounts statistics.

Net capital expenditure is the value of new building work and acquisitions less disposals of land, existing buildings, vehicles, plant and machinery.

Capital expenditure for establishments where production had not started before the end of the year, is included. Figures in the table have, where necessary, been rounded to the nearest final digit.

Business Monitor PA 1001, Introductory notes to the final census report, sets out in greater detail the notes for guidance and explanations of how a census is conducted.

[1] *Trade and Industry*, 14 April 1978.

Output, employment and capital expenditure 1974-77

All United Kingdom establishments classified to manufacturing and construction

Standard industrial classification order		Total employment ('000)	Gross output (£ million)	Net output (£ million)	Gross value added		Net capital expenditure (£ million)
					Total (£ million)	Per head (£)	
III to XIX	All manufacturing industries						
	1974	7 754.9	83 153.1	33 047.8	29 345.2	3 784	3 072.4
	1975	7 467.0	93 047.6	36 948.0	32 389.7	4 338	3 535.8
	1976	7 372.7	116 207.5	44 866.4	38 898.2	5 276	4 115.0
	1977	7 455.9	138 089.6	52 534.0	45 403.2	6 090	4 989.4
III	Food, drink and tobacco						
	1974	802.8	14 537.3	4 114.0	3 531.1	4 399	462.9
	1975	774.0	17 173.3	4 772.1	4 098.7	5 296	451.4
	1976	787.3	21 262.5	5 899.8	5 049.7	6 414	530.1
	1977	777.6	26 352.3	6 752.0	5 767.6	7 417	716.8
IV	Coal and petroleum products						
	1974	36.6	5 618.7	810.0	758.7	20 730	51.7
	1975	36.3	5 825.4	1 023.9	960.2	26 452	87.5
	1976	35.2	7 165.8	854.3	786.0	22 330	92.3
	1977	34.7	7 238.8	795.1	696.7	20 078	92.8
V	Chemicals and allied industries						
	1974	406.0	8 014.9	3 145.2	2 695.7	6 639	350.1
	1975	401.5	8 564.5	3 343.4	2 798.1	6 970	575.6
	1976	405.3	11 533.5	4 593.0	3 849.5	9 498	715.7
	1977	409.4	13 824.3	5 283.5	4 424.0	10 806	805.3
VI	Metal manufacture						
	1974	498.8	7 094.3	2 528.0	2 270.0	4 550	421.0
	1975	484.8	7 004.7	2 352.3	2 067.3	4 265	628.4
	1976	475.9	9 226.3	2 988.2	2 621.2	5 508	688.2
	1977	471.1	10 197.4	3 016.7	2 587.7	5 493	592.1
VII	Mechanical engineering						
	1974	958.0	7 992.1	3 879.0	3 501.7	3 655	242.6
	1975	926.9	9 523.5	4 746.4	4 204.7	4 537	280.2
	1976	914.4	11 442.4	5 568.0	4 863.8	5 319	345.0
	1977	941.2	13 927.1	6 631.9	5 767.1	6 127	491.8
VIII	Instrument engineering						
	1974	158.5	967.8	519.6	461.7	2 914	38.2
	1975	158.0	1 135.5	631.8	556.2	3 519	42.4
	1976	160.8	1 412.9	789.1	699.3	4 349	50.9
	1977	161.3	1 733.6	950.6	829.6	5 143	64.8
IX	Electrical engineering						
	1974	788.7	6 077.5	2 841.0	2 579.1	3 270	216.9
	1975	745.3	6 879.1	3 338.2	3 013.3	4 043	222.4
	1976	734.1	8 724.2	3 957.6	3 512.2	4 784	282.0
	1977	744.2	10 573.2	4 920.8	4 362.3	5 862	366.1
X	Shipbuilding and marine engineering						
	1974	179.4	1 029.8	525.4	485.4	2 705	64.1
	1975	177.3	1 213.0	630.0	588.3	3 319	74.8
	1976	176.7	1 538.6	728.5	680.6	3 852	89.8
	1977	176.2	1 860.5	918.6	859.6	4 878	65.4
XI	Vehicles						
	1974	801.4	7 191.0	3 335.3	3 058.2	3 816	249.9
	1975	787.0	8 937.4	3 473.0	3 126.5	3 973	265.0
	1976	766.1	10 556.3	4 155.1	3 712.3	4 846	292.5
	1977	790.8	12 704.5	5 314.1	4 783.1	6 048	429.7
XII	Metal goods not elsewhere specified						
	1974	555.2	4 412.1	1 986.5	1 780.2	3 206	155.5
	1975	532.0	4 886.3	2 260.3	2 010.6	3 780	160.2
	1976	526.8	6 328.9	2 871.9	2 466.4	4 682	182.3
	1977	531.0	7 455.8	3 242.8	2 803.6	5 280	228.0
XIII	Textiles						
	1974	574.7	4 668.3	1 835.7	1 640.9	2 855	220.4
	1975	533.1	4 742.9	1 944.4	1 707.8	3 209	186.5
	1976	512.4	5 920.9	2 372.7	2 098.9	4 096	180.9
	1977	520.6	6 807.3	2 573.9	2 249.1	4 320	187.3
XIV	Leather, leather goods and fur						
	1974	43.3	362.3	128.2	114.2	2 637	9.0
	1975	42.3	397.5	160.0	140.2	3 316	8.1
	1976	41.3	539.9	194.0	167.9	4 065	10.9
	1977	41.7	624.1	206.5	177.9	4 266	11.7
XV	Clothing and footwear						
	1974	445.8	2 041.4	951.0	864.6	1 939	39.2
	1975	428.6	2 273.2	1 104.6	996.3	2 325	34.5
	1976	420.8	2 649.7	1 231.9	1 096.5	2 606	43.9
	1977	412.7	3 181.4	1 484.3	1 343.8	3 256	52.7
XVI	Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc						
	1974	281.2	2 243.5	1 249.8	1 043.9	3 713	159.6
	1975	264.8	2 746.3	1 519.5	1 259.2	4 755	143.6
	1976	259.9	3 334.2	1 837.6	1 551.2	5 968	153.2
	1977	262.4	4 030.4	2 178.3	1 806.4	6 884	238.4
XVII	Timber, furniture, etc						
	1974	276.7	2 713.3	1 107.0	975.6	3 526	77.0
	1975	271.7	2 856.5	1 238.9	1 074.2	3 954	66.4
	1976	258.2	3 574.9	1 455.2	1 233.5	4 777	102.3
	1977	269.1	4 124.7	1 717.0	1 441.8	5 358	122.5
XVIII	Paper, printing and publishing						
	1974	590.5	5 334.5	2 697.3	2 355.7	3 990	184.6
	1975	564.2	5 766.1	2 877.7	2 464.5	4 368	195.9
	1976	555.1	7 169.7	3 546.0	2 981.8	5 372	214.3
	1977	555.8	8 657.0	4 260.1	3 569.4	6 422	294.1
XIX	Other manufacturing industries						
	1974	357.4	2 854.4	1 395.0	1 228.6	3 438	129.6
	1975	339.5	3 122.2	1 531.4	1 323.4	3 899	113.1
	1976	342.4	3 826.8	1 823.5	1 527.6	4 461	140.8
	1977	356.1	4 792.2	2 287.8	1 933.8	5 431	229.9
XX	Construction						
	1974	1 508.0	12 932.0	5 624.0	4 927.0	3 266	350.5
	1975	1 465.0	14 899.0	6 704.0	5 890.0	4 021	430.3
	1976	1 396.9	15 778.9	7 127.4	6 238.1	4 466	462.4
	1977	1 332.4	16 404.3	7 445.5	6 454.6	4 844	502.2

New companies registered in Great Britain

Below are details of new companies registered in Great Britain during January 1979 showing nominal capital. The figures exclude unlimited companies and companies limited by guarantee.

Nominal capital	Total	Public companies	Private companies
Not exceeding £100	3 340	–	3 340
Over £100 but under £1 000	51	–	51
£1 000 but under £10 000	1 101	–	1 101
£10 000 but under £50 000	685	–	685
£50 000 but under £100 000	105	–	105
£100 000 but under £1 000 000	127	–	127
£1 000 000 and over	12	–	12
Total number	5 421	–	5 421
	£ thous	£ thous	£ thous
Total amount of nominal capital	63 536	–	63 536

Companies registered in Great Britain in 1978 and 1979

	1978		1979	
	Number	Nominal capital £ thous	Number	Nominal capital £ thous
January	4 555	31 447	5 421	63 536
February	4 316	38 325		
March	6 024	52 299		
April	5 031	47 396		
May	5 939	59 998		
June	5 023	45 806		
July	5 264	57 870		
August	5 087	50 191		
September	5 484	92 414		
October	5 482	41 488		
November	6 131	60 558		
December	4 343	58 962		
Total	62 679	636 754		

The nominal capital figure of £59,082,000 for December 1978 as supplied in January 1979 is incorrect. The figure should read £58,962,000. As a consequence the total nominal capital figure for 1978 of £636,874,000 is also incorrect. This figure should read £636,754,000.
Inquiries: Cardiff (0222) 388588 ext. 2226.

Consumers' expenditure: fourth quarter 1978

The second preliminary estimate of consumers' expenditure in the fourth quarter of 1978 is £16,704 million (revalued at 1975 prices and seasonally adjusted), a downward revision of £66 million from the first estimate.

The revised estimate represents a decrease of about ½ per cent in consumers' expenditure between the third and fourth quarters of 1978 but is about 5½ per cent above the level of the fourth quarter of 1977.

Between the third and fourth quarters the generally high level of retail sales was maintained, with further increases in expenditure on food and on clothing and footwear. There was also an increase in consumers' expenditure on beer. Expenditure on fuel and light was less in the fourth quarter than in the third, and expenditure on motor vehicles fell back sharply.

Capital expenditure of the manufacturing, distributive and service industries: fourth quarter 1978

Manufacturing industry

The provisional estimate of fixed investment by manufacturing industry in the fourth quarter of 1978 is £968 million at 1975 prices seasonally adjusted, a fall of 1 per cent from the third quarter. In view of the customary irregular nature of the series a better guide to the trend is given by comparing the second half of the year with the first half. This comparison shows a rise of 3 per cent, a larger increase than that between the second half of 1977 and the first half of 1978 (2 per cent). If the iron and steel industry is excluded the rise between the two halves of 1978 increases to 6 per cent compared with 5 per cent between the second half of 1977 and the first half of 1978.

For the year as a whole all manufacturing investment, £3,833 million, rose by over 7 per cent above the 1977 level and by over 13 per cent excluding the iron and steel industry. This provisional 1978 level is the highest since 1971. Investment in individual assets, compared with 1977, consisted of rises of 12 per cent in new building work, 8 per cent in plant and machinery and a fall of 5 per cent in vehicles.

Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)

The provisional estimate of the capital expenditure of the distributive and service industries (excluding shipping) in the fourth quarter of 1978 is £1,153 million, at 1975 prices, seasonally adjusted: this is about 1 per cent below the outcome for the previous quarter. The provisional outcome for the year is some 8 per cent above the investment recorded in 1977 and nearly regains the all-time peak of 1973. Expenditure on new building work was 3 per cent higher in 1978, while the investment in vehicles was 12 per cent greater and in plant and machinery, about 10 per cent more.

There has been a sharp increase during recent years in the practice of obtaining capital goods through some form of leasing or rental arrangements rather than by purchase. Expenditure on capital goods acquired for leasing out is classified to the service industries on the basis of ownership of the assets. Although there has been a slightly downward tendency in the latter half of 1978 in capital expenditure by the distributive and service industries as a whole there is evidence of a strong and continuing upward trend in capital investment by the leasing companies.

Table 1 **Fixed capital expenditure at 1975 prices seasonally adjusted of manufacturing, distributive and service industries**

£ million

		Analysis by industrial sectors			Analysis by type of asset		
Period	Total	Manufacturing industries	Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)	Shipping industry	New building work	Vehicles	Plant and machinery
1967	6 680	3 412	2 985	283	2 439	1 150	3 091
1968	7 386 (7 232) [1]	3 642 (3 549)	3 262 (3 251) [1]	483 (433) [1]	2 510	1 431 (1 381) [1]	3 446 (3 342) [1]
1969	7 763 (7 917) [1]	3 898 (3 991)	3 478 (3 489) [1]	387 (437) [1]	2 716	1 386 (1 436) [1]	3 661 (3 765) [1]
1970	8 470	4 196	3 669	605	2 766	1 603	4 101
1971	8 413	3 923	3 888	602	2 870	1 546	3 997
1972	8 249	3 398	4 055	796	2 585	1 891	3 774
1973	8 997	3 504	4 674	818	2 740	2 097	4 160
1974	9 112	3 822	4 605	685	2 656	2 010	4 446
1975	7 929	3 522	3 841	565	2 158	1 590	4 181
1976	7 601	3 345	3 926	329	1 993	1 552	4 056
1977	8 296	3 573	4 325	398	1 998	1 768	4 530
1978	8 696	3 833	4 671	192	2 097	1 687	4 912
1972							
1st qtr	2 047	901	965	181	653	431	963
2nd	2 069	841	1 016	211	650	478	941
3rd	2 024	829	1 015	180	632	466	926
4th	2 110	827	1 059	224	650	516	944
1973							
1st qtr	2 304	878	1 167	259	708	571	1 026
2nd	2 168	845	1 157	166	683	471	1 015
3rd	2 224	912	1 158	154	697	483	1 044
4th	2 300	869	1 192	239	652	573	1 076
1974							
1st qtr	2 300	951	1 224	124	713	468	1 119
2nd	2 269	948	1 160	161	668	494	1 107
3rd	2 267	948	1 117	202	651	529	1 086
4th	2 276	975	1 104	197	625	518	1 133
1975							
1st qtr	2 076	942	967	167	572	438	1 065
2nd	2 027	901	967	159	562	405	1 061
3rd	1 957	850	967	140	526	385	1 047
4th	1 868	830	940	99	498	362	1 008
1976							
1st qtr	1 840	813	936	92	508	367	965
2nd	1 854	828	972	54	496	362	996
3rd	1 975	849	1 005	121	498	442	1 035
4th	1 932	856	1 014	62	491	380	1 061
1977							
1st qtr	1 988	851	1 030	107	476	437	1 075
2nd	2 024	879	1 044	101	470	445	1 109
3rd	2 111	910	1 103	98	516	451	1 144
4th	2 174	932	1 149	93	535	436	1 203
1978							
1st qtr	2 156	922	1 169	65	504	435	1 216
2nd	2 191	962	1 180	49	534	420	1 237
3rd	2 218	981	1 168	69	538	444	1 237
4th	2 131	968	1 153	9	521	387	1 222

The figures given above cover a wide sector of the economy, accounting – after exclusion of dwellings – for some 52 per cent of all UK gross domestic fixed capital formation in 1977. The scope of manufacturing and the distributive and service industries is defined in the notes at the end of the article, and falls very largely in the private sector of the economy, although some public sector elements are included as appropriate (notably the British Steel Corporation, in manufacturing industry). Exploration and development work in the North Sea (order II) is excluded.

[1] After allowing for expenditure, brought forward into 1968 from 1969 to secure the higher rate of investment grants which ended on 31 December 1968: estimated at £93 million for manufacturing industry. £11 million for distributive and service industries, and £50 million for shipping. The estimate for shipping is particularly uncertain because of the erratic nature of this industry's capital expenditure, while that for the distributive and service industries is uncertain because of the smallness of the effect.

Shipping

The quarterly series of investment by the shipping industry tends to fluctuate considerably, and the provisional estimate for the fourth quarter is exceptionally low at £9 million (1975 prices, seasonally adjusted). This low figure is partly attributable to the sales of a number of ships to overseas buyers. The provisional outcome for 1978 is less than half the expenditure in the previous year.

Note

The estimation of changes in the volume of capital expenditure (as distinct from changes at current prices) is subject to greater uncertainty when the rate of price increases is varying and this should be borne in mind in using the figures.

Inquiries: Manufacturing industry 01-215 3175/3176. Distributing service industries 01-215 3345.

Notes to tables

Capital expenditure comprises expenditure on vehicles (including ships) and plant and machinery less receipts from sales of these assets, and on new building work.

The analysis by industry group follows the standard industrial classification revised 1968 edition:

Manufacturing orders III to XIX
Distributive trades order XXIII
Wholesale MLH 810, 811, 812, 831, 832 (except leasing by finance houses and similar businesses)
Retail MLH 820, 821

Other industries order XX (construction): XXII (transport and communication) excluding 701 – railways, 706 – port and inland water transport, 707 – air transport and 708 – postal services and telecommunications: XXIV (insurance, banking, finance and business services) including leasing by finance houses and similar businesses and excluding Trustee Savings Banks; XXV (professional and scientific services) excluding 872 – educational services and 874 – medical and dental services; and XXVI (miscellaneous services).

SIC orders I (agriculture, forestry and fishing), II (mining and quarrying), XXI (gas, electricity and water), and XXVI (public administration and defence) are completely excluded.

The estimates with the exception of those for manufacturing industry in table 2, are shown to the nearest £m but should not be regarded as accurate to this degree and care should be taken in using the industry figures in tables 2 and 3, because of the margin of error involved in the quarterly seasonal adjustments. Also, there may be an apparent discrepancy between the total and the sum of the constituent parts due to rounding.

See also footnotes to table 1.

Table 2 Fixed capital expenditure of manufacturing industry at 1975 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

		Analysis by industry group												Analysis by type of asset		
		Food, drink and tobacco						Engineering, shipbuilding and metal goods								
Period	Total all manufacturing industries	Food [1]	Drink and tobacco [1]	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals	Iron and steel	Non-ferrous metals	Instrument and electrical engineering [1]	Other	Vehicles	Textiles leather and clothing	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries	New building work	Vehicles	Plant and machinery
1970	4 196.4		503.8	176.5	785.6	318.1	200.0		807.5	434.2	314.3	262.8	393.6	1 000.2	222.0	2 974.2
1971	3 922.5		505.3	251.9	683.6	467.6	131.8		708.9	274.9	265.0	214.7	418.8	905.2	222.0	2 795.3
1972	3 397.8		519.4	214.9	492.2	439.7	77.3		640.8	179.2	217.0	194.3	423.0	738.0	239.4	2 420.4
1973	3 504.1	297.4	269.6	86.1	389.3	347.1	63.3	263.7	508.9	259.3	314.5	225.6	479.3	738.7	260.1	2 505.3
1974	3 822.0	318.8	254.4	92.6	440.1	416.0	78.3	299.4	553.7	315.9	336.7	249.0	467.1	727.1	273.6	2 821.3
1975	3 521.9	285.1	181.0	111.3	545.5	513.2	77.7	258.3	501.9	269.8	233.4	210.8	333.9	639.9	199.9	2 682.1
1976	3 345.3	268.9	168.3	90.1	556.0	585.2	51.2	254.0	468.1	247.9	170.9	177.9	306.8	513.9	239.7	2 591.7
1977	3 572.6	360.5	217.3	75.4	622.3	451.1	61.0	304.8	502.6	287.2	150.8	173.3	366.3	547.1	285.8	2 739.7
1978	3 832.8													611.6	270.4	2 950.8
1974																
1st qtr	951.1	84.3	68.3	21.0	100.6	89.1	18.2	71.5	144.7	79.2	86.6	58.3	129.3	191.6	68.4	691.1
2nd	948.3	76.5	71.3	20.8	103.1	97.4	21.2	73.8	134.0	79.9	87.2	63.7	119.4	182.1	69.2	697.0
3rd	947.5	80.5	61.9	23.6	108.4	95.9	19.4	76.6	138.4	81.1	85.3	62.9	113.5	174.8	69.8	702.9
4th	975.1	77.5	52.9	27.2	128.0	133.6	19.5	77.5	136.6	75.7	77.6	64.1	104.9	178.6	66.2	730.3
1975																
1st qtr	941.7	76.5	50.5	27.4	140.2	111.7	30.4	71.9	136.1	75.5	67.5	58.5	95.5	176.7	54.3	710.7
2nd	900.8	72.9	46.7	30.1	140.7	123.6	15.0	67.3	133.8	70.5	59.4	53.0	87.8	167.6	47.5	685.7
3rd	849.9	69.0	34.7	32.5	138.3	135.5	16.6	58.4	122.6	61.3	53.8	52.7	74.5	155.9	47.8	646.2
4th	829.5	66.7	49.1	21.3	126.3	142.4	15.7	60.7	109.4	62.5	52.7	46.6	76.1	139.7	50.3	639.5
1976																
1st qtr	813.0	63.6	38.3	27.8	125.7	154.6	14.0	63.3	109.3	52.5	47.6	46.3	70.0	135.0	53.6	624.4
2nd	827.8	64.3	35.9	22.5	137.0	155.7	12.0	60.0	116.3	62.7	43.4	45.9	72.1	126.3	60.7	640.8
3rd	848.7	69.9	47.2	19.8	144.9	147.6	12.0	63.5	114.5	63.9	41.0	43.5	80.9	126.9	62.3	659.5
4th	855.8	71.1	46.9	20.0	148.4	127.3	13.2	67.2	128.0	68.8	38.9	42.2	83.8	125.7	63.1	667.0
1977																
1st qtr	851.2	81.8	52.1	15.5	142.0	124.9	12.6	69.3	119.6	64.2	39.2	42.2	87.8	128.2	70.0	653.0
2nd	879.1	92.4	57.5	18.8	150.8	111.4	14.8	73.4	125.1	64.2	38.3	42.3	90.1	134.4	75.5	669.2
3rd	910.2	94.1	58.0	18.0	163.3	102.1	17.0	83.2	128.8	74.4	35.7	44.6	91.0	139.3	69.2	701.7
4th	932.1	92.2	49.7	23.1	166.2	112.7	16.6	78.9	129.1	84.4	37.6	44.2	97.4	145.2	71.1	715.8
1978																
1st qtr	922.3	88.9	71.2	22.8	172.2	86.2	15.2	88.3	129.0	79.0	35.3	49.0	85.2	142.1	68.6	711.6
2nd	961.6	103.2	57.9	30.4	177.4	86.6	16.7	90.4	127.5	104.6	32.8	48.8	85.3	146.2	68.5	746.9
3rd	980.9	87.9	50.9	38.5	198.8	65.6	17.9	106.2	143.9	97.6	36.2	49.9	87.5	161.4	67.8	751.7
4th	968.0													161.9	65.5	740.6

[1] These columns represent the division of the columns 'food, drink and tobacco, engineering, shipbuilding and metal goods', formerly shown. This split is not available for the years 1970 to 1972.

Table 3 Fixed capital expenditure in the distributive and service industries (excluding shipping) at 1975 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

		Analysis by industry group			Analysis by type of asset		
Period	Total	Wholesale distribution	Retail distribution	Other industries [2]	New building work	Vehicles	Plant and machinery
1968	3 262 (3 251) [1]	345	539	2 377 (2 366) [1]	1 640	751	870 (859) [1]
1969	3 478 (3 489)	332	552	2 594 (2 605) [1]	1 710	794	974 (985) [1]
1970	3 669	365	547	2 757	1 752	803	1 114
1971	3 888	384	582	2 923	1 959	743	1 187
1972	4 055	405	685	2 966	1 841	893	1 322
1973	4 674	396	790	3 488	1 997	1 034	1 644
1974	4 605	438	778	3 390	1 922	1 064	1 620
1975	3 841	362	672	2 808	1 509	838	1 494
1976	3 926	337	666	2 923	1 469	1 002	1 455
1977	4 325	370	750	3 205	1 437	1 101	1 787
1978	4 671	380	793	3 497	1 481	1 232	1 957
1973							
1st qtr	1 167	103	192	872	527	250	390
2nd	1 157	98	197	862	504	245	409
3rd	1 158	95	206	858	504	268	386
4th	1 192	100	196	896	462	271	459
1974							
1st qtr	1 224	118	190	917	520	278	426
2nd	1 160	107	192	861	484	267	408
3rd	1 117	112	186	819	475	260	382
4th	1 104	101	211	793	443	258	403
1975							
1st qtr	967	98	158	711	394	221	353
2nd	967	92	167	708	392	201	374
3rd	967	87	171	709	367	201	399
4th	940	85	175	680	357	215	368
1976							
1st qtr	936	82	164	689	371	227	338
2nd	972	83	182	706	367	252	353
3rd	1 005	86	160	759	369	263	372
4th	1 014	86	160	769	361	261	392
1977							
1st qtr	1 030	81	184	765	347	263	420
2nd	1 044	92	183	769	332	274	439
3rd	1 103	97	197	809	374	287	442
4th	1 149	101	186	862	385	277	487
1978							
1st qtr	1 169	90	201	878	361	304	504
2nd	1 180	94	207	879	386	306	489
3rd	1 168	97	188	884	375	310	483
4th	1 153	100	198	856	360	313	481

[1] See footnote to table 1 [2] Including leasing, on the basis of the ownership of assets.

Table 4 Fixed capital expenditure at current prices of manufacturing, distributive and service industries

£ million

Period	Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)	Shipping industry
1968	3 304	1 639	1 418	247
1969	3 629	1 822	1 589	217
1970	4 294	2 130	1 799	364
1971	4 648	2 187	2 078	384
1972	4 971	2 044	2 373	553
1973	6 071	2 347	3 090	635
1974	7 360	3 067	3 682	611
1975	7 929	3 522	3 841	565
1976	8 841	3 958	4 497	386
1977	11 033	4 862	5 611	560
1978	12 838	5 760	6 700	378
1973				
1st qtr	1 455	555	734	166
2nd	1 378	521	738	118
3rd	1 464	612	743	109
4th	1 775	659	875	242
1974				
1st qtr	1 673	693	890	90
2nd	1 684	688	871	125
3rd	1 848	776	899	173
4th	2 155	910	1 022	223
1975				
1st qtr	1 895	860	893	142
2nd	1 890	832	920	138
3rd	1 989	869	972	148
4th	2 155	961	1 056	138
1976				
1st qtr	2 034	918	1 020	96
2nd	1 999	893	1 053	53
3rd	2 274	997	1 130	146
4th	2 534	1 150	1 293	92
1977				
1st qtr	2 491	1 106	1 263	122
2nd	2 498	1 101	1 284	114
3rd	2 792	1 233	1 414	145
4th	3 251	1 421	1 651	180
1978				
1st qtr	3 018	1 322	1 584	112
2nd	3 016	1 346	1 584	86
3rd	3 251	1 456	1 639	156
4th	3 553	1 637	1 892	24

Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks: fourth quarter 1978

Provisional figures indicate that the level of stocks held by manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers rose by about £100 million at 1975 prices, seasonally adjusted in the fourth quarter of 1978. During 1978 as a whole stocks rose by about £900 million.

Manufacturing industry

It is provisionally estimated that manufacturers' stocks rose by about £60 million, at 1975 prices, seasonally adjusted, in the fourth quarter of 1978. Stocks of materials and fuel rose by about £15 million. Work in progress rose by about £220 million, the fifth successive increase. Stocks of finished goods fell by about £175 million following nearly three years of increases in all but two quarters. It is thought possible that Ford's and the tanker drivers' disputes affected stock levels at the end of the year. It has of course to be remembered that provisional estimates of stock changes are subject to considerable revision.

During 1978 as a whole, manufacturers' stocks increased by about £545 million. Stocks of materials and fuel were virtually unchanged. Work in progress rose by about £465 million and finished goods by about £80 million.

The total stocks/output ratio rose during the quarter from 99.9 at end-September to 102.4 at end-December due to the increase in stocks and the fall in manufacturing output. The ratios for materials and fuel and work in progress rose during the quarter but that for finished goods fell.

Distributive industries

On the basis of provisional estimates, wholesalers' stocks declined by about £50 million, at 1975 prices, seasonally adjusted, in the fourth quarter. The provisional outcome for the year is therefore a very small increase of about £20 million. Retailers' stocks increased by about £90 million, at 1975 prices, seasonally adjusted, in the fourth quarter, the outcome for the year being a rather large increase of about £330 million.

Note

The estimation of physical change in stocks is subject to greater uncertainty when the rate of price increase is varying and this should be borne in mind when using the figures.

Inquiries: Manufacturing industry 01-215 3175/5215. Distributive industries 01-215 3345.

Notes to tables 1 to 4

1 The analysis by industry group follows the standard industrial classification (1968 edition):
Manufacturing orders III to XIX.
Distributive trades order XXII:
Wholesale MLH 810, 811, 812, 831, 832 (except leasing by finance houses)
Retail MLH 820, 821.

2 Book values exclude VAT. Purchase tax payable on retailer's stock prior to the second quarter of 1973.

3 The estimates are shown to the nearest £ million but should not be regarded as accurate to this degree and care should be taken in using the industry figures in tables 2 and 3 because of the margin of error involved in quarterly seasonal adjustments. Differences between totals and the sum of constituent parts are due to rounding.

r Revised. p Provisional.

Table 1 Value of physical increase in industry's stocks at 1975 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Total	Manufacturing	Wholesaling	Retailing
Level of stocks at end 1977	27 716	19 995	4 540	3 181
1967	229	119	31	79
1968	814	530	160	124
1969	789	600	131	58
1970	805	616	202	−13
1971	−47	−277	218	12
1972	−77	−279	173	29
1973	2 392	1 336	432	624
1974	1 469	1 288	361	−180
1975	−1 570	−1 221	−249	−100
1976	460	316	131	13
1977	737	422	266	29
1978 p	894	544	17	333
1973				
1st qtr	638	384	115	139
2nd	729	341	74	314
3rd	531	337	119	75
4th	493	274	123	96
1974				
1st qtr	78	54	87	−63
2nd	662	453	156	53
3rd	654	686	62	−94
4th	74	94	56	−76
1975				
1st qtr	−447	−258	−84	−105
2nd	−432	−230	−107	−95
3rd	−481	−476	−45	40
4th	−210	−257	−13	60
1976				
1st qtr	37	−13	43	7
2nd	−106	−29	−10	−67
3rd	226	99	81	46
4th	304	260	17	27
1977				
1st qtr	434	235	82	117
2nd	280	97	179	4
3rd	−145	−6	−80	−59
4th	168	116	85	−33
1978				
1st qtr	181	36	81	62
2nd	338	272	−62	128
3rd	274	175	45	54
4th p	102	60	−47	89

Table 2 Value of the physical increase of stocks held by manufacturing industry at 1975 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Analysis by industry group							Analysis by type of asset		
	All manufacturing industries	Food, drink and tobacco	Chemicals, coal and petroleum products	Metal manufacture	Engineering, shipbuilding, vehicles and metal goods	Textiles, leather and clothing	Other manufacturing industries	Materials and fuel	Work in progress	Finished goods
Level of stocks at end 1977	19 995	2 334	2 462	1 805	9 724	1 433	2 237	7 277	7 321	5 397
1967	119	57	15	−82	219	−68	−22	−29	245	−96
1968	530	16	174	83	112	59	97	220	199	112
1969	600	55	181	−31	124	134	138	194	43	364
1970	616	17	103	98	400	–	−2	234	215	166
1971	−277	17	39	14	−311	−29	−8	−291	−170	184
1972	−279	34	3	−89	−162	−95	30	−88	58	−248
1973	1 336	152	251	60	595	75	203	829	544	−38
1974	1 288	261	403	7	459	19	138	658	53	577
1975	−1 221	−360	−285	21	−207	−96	−295	−926	−272	−23
1976	316	16	97	236	−80	−3	51	−65	222	159
1977	442	160	−84	−37	275	30	98	−18	196	264
1978 p	544							−4	468	81
1973										
1st qtr	384	6	60	53	162	11	91	218	190	−25
2nd	341	28	87	6	163	17	41	247	99	−6
3rd	337	68	95	12	94	26	42	192	161	−15
4th	274	50	9	−11	176	21	30	172	94	8
1974										
1st qtr	54	92	273	−152	−74	−29	−57	336	−138	−145
2nd	453	135	35	29	135	34	87	63	148	243
3rd	686	94	154	92	231	28	89	274	108	304
4th	94	−60	−58	39	168	−14	20	−15	−65	175
1975										
1st qtr	−258	−95	−107	93	−13	−30	−107	−292	−77	110
2nd	−230	−120	−49	16	24	−32	−69	−156	−45	−28
3rd	−476	−105	−89	−70	−95	−36	−81	−338	−90	−48
4th	−257	−39	−41	−17	−123	2	−38	−140	−60	−57
1976										
1st	−13	−14	12	−7	−7	22	−20	−89	42	34
2nd	−29	−12	26	48	−83	−14	7	−47	38	−20
3rd	99	−20	19	96	−24	−7	35	48	38	14
4th	260	61	41	99	33	−4	30	23	105	131
1977										
1st qtr	235	17	9	35	120	13	41	91	123	21
2nd	97	42	−47	−3	22	34	50	−38	−69	204
3rd	−6	76	−56	−25	9	−9	—	−23	−33	50
4th	116	25	11	−43	124	−8	7	−48	175	−11
1978										
1st qtr	38	54	37	−87	−7	5	38	−26	17	48
2nd	275	107	−22	−8	209	−13	−3	−15	128	158
3rd	175	31	−37	19	180	−16	−2	20	102	52
4th p	60							17	220	−177

Table 3 **Value of the physical increase of stocks held by wholesalers at 1975 prices seasonally adjusted**

£ million

	Total wholesalers	General wholesale distributors	Dealers in coal, builders materials etc	Dealers in industrial materials and machinery
Level of stocks at end 1977	4 540	2 890	349	1 302
1967	31	17	1	14
1968	160	107	9	44
1969	131	81	3	47
1970	202	48	5	149
1971	218	181	−3	40
1972	173	147	29	−3
1973	432	433	4	−6
1974	361	213	15	133
1975	−249	−255	−26	32
1976	131	117	12	2
1977	266	158	−3	111
1978 p	17			
1973				
1st qtr	115	108	−16	23
2nd	74	80	15	−21
3rd	119	124	5	−9
4th	123	122	1	1
1974				
1st qtr	87	91	−6	3
2nd	156	101	13	43
3rd	62	9	—	53
4th	56	13	9	34
1975				
1st qtr	−84	−104	1	19
2nd	−107	−108	−12	13
3rd	−45	−24	−10	−11
4th	−13	−19	−5	11
1976				
1st qtr	43	43	19	−18
2nd	−10	45	−13	−41
3rd	81	26	9	47
4th	17	4	−3	15
1977				
1st qtr	82	55	8	20
2nd	179	45	14	121
3rd	−80	4	−44	−41
4th	85	54	20	11
1978				
1st qtr	81	63	−37	55
2nd	−62	−48	19	−33
3rd	45	18	−6	33
4th p	−47			

Table 4 **Increase in the book value of manufacturers' and distributors' stocks**

£ million

	Total	Manufacturing	Wholesaling	Retailing
Level of stocks at end 1977	39 613	28 771	6 425	4 417
1967	280	180	47	51
1968	874	581	138	152
1969	985	766	134	113
1970	1 302	1 038	207	102
1971	764	471	264	133
1972	949	618	298	114
1973	3 699	2 425	793	481
1974	6 335	4 978	938	419
1975	3 054	2 259	348	447
1976	6 200	4 591	1 143	466
1977	5 094	3 578	898	618
1978 p	4 444	3 101	541	801
1973				
1st qtr	681	459	121	101
2nd	749	515	138	96
3rd	1 031	627	289	115
4th	1 237	824	244	169
1974				
1st qtr	1 771	1 469	243	59
2nd	1 834	1 388	264	182
3rd	1 532	1 221	239	72
4th	1 197	899	192	106
1975				
1st qtr	973	894	18	61
2nd	612	559	15	38
3rd	530	218	158	154
4th	940	588	158	194
1976				
1st qtr	1 124	877	192	55
2nd	1 219	1 014	214	−9
3rd	1 666	1 091	407	168
4th	2 191	1 610	329	252
1977				
1st qtr	2 104	1 527	281	296
2nd	1 334	936	273	125
3rd	696	408	222	66
4th	959	707	121	131
1978				
1st qtr	683	487	91	105
2nd	1 358	1 077	60	222
3rd	1 071	594	289	188
4th p	1 332	944	101	286

Table 5 **Relationship of manufacturers' stocks to manufacturing production**

Index numbers – fourth quarter 1974 = 100 Seasonally adjusted

Period (quarters)	Total stock levels (at 1975 prices)	Production (with 1975 net output weights)	Ratio of stocks to production: Total	Materials and fuel	Work in progress	Finished goods
1973						
1st qtr	89.0	102.1	87.2	82.9	92.4	86.9
2nd	90.7	103.2	87.9	84.9	92.7	85.8
3rd	92.4	104.2	88.6	86.3	93.9	84.7
4th	93.7	104.2	89.8	88.3	95.2	84.8
1974						
1st qtr	94.0	99.7	94.2	96.4	97.6	85.8
2nd	96.2	104.1	92.4	93.1	95.5	86.8
3rd	99.5	103.2	96.4	97.0	97.7	93.5
4th	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1975						
1st qtr	98.7	99.1	99.6	97.3	99.8	103.1
2nd	97.6	94.7	103.0	99.8	103.8	107.3
3rd	95.3	93.7	101.6	96.5	103.5	107.3
4th	94.0	94.3	99.6	94.1	102.0	105.5
1976						
1st qtr	94.0	94.6	99.3	92.7	102.3	105.9
2nd	93.8	97.1	96.6	89.8	100.2	102.8
3rd	94.3	97.2	97.0	90.3	100.6	102.9
4th	95.6	98.5	97.0	89.3	100.8	104.2
1977						
1st qtr	96.7	99.1	97.6	89.9	101.9	104.0
2nd	97.2	97.8	99.4	90.7	102.3	109.6
3rd	97.2	98.3	98.8	89.9	101.2	110.0
4th	97.7	97.3	100.4	90.2	104.8	111.0
1978						
1st qtr	97.9	97.5	100.4	89.7	104.9	111.7
2nd	99.3	100.0	99.3	87.3	104.1	112.1
3rd	100.1	100.1	99.9	87.4	105.3	112.9
4th	100.4	98.0	102.4	89.5	110.7	111.8

Manufacturers' stocks rose in December

It is estimated that manufacturers' stocks rose by £110 million at 1975 prices, seasonally adjusted, in December 1978. Stocks of materials and fuel are thought to have risen slightly while work in progress rose substantially. Stocks of finished goods fell during the month.

Monthly figures from January 1978, adjusted to agree with the quarterly figures published opposite, are shown below:

Stock changes

£ million, 1975 prices, seasonally adjusted

1978	
January	−10
February	+120
March	−70
April	+190
May	+160
June	−80
July	+120
August	+10
September	+40
October	−30
November	−30
December	+110

Inquiries: 01-215 5215/3176.

What is 'Financial Statistics'?

Financial Statistics is a monthly publication by the Central Statistical Office and the source of many figures used in articles by financial journalists and in stockbrokers' circulars. It brings together the key financial and monetary statistics of the United Kingdom.

Financial Statistics is the prime source of detailed UK quarterly *financial accounts*. These include all recorded financial flows between sectors of the economy and bring a sense of proportion to the statistics of the different types of financial institutions and the various savings media.

Financial Statistics contains *up-to-date information* on government accounts, public sector borrowing requirement, money stock, domestic credit expansion, company liquidity, interest rates and security prices.

An **Explanatory Handbook for Financial Statistics** has been published. It contains notes and definitions which add to the understanding of all the tables, and explains the relationship between them. The handbook is included in the annual subscription charge, or can be obtained separately (£1.50 net). The second edition will be available in April 1979.

Price £3.40. Annual subscription including explanatory handbook and postage £46.36.

Engineering industries: indices of production up to November

Output of the combined engineering industries for the latest available three-monthly period (September to November) was virtually unchanged from that of the previous three months (June to August). Between these two periods a small rise in the instrument engineering sector was offset by a small fall in electrical engineering, with mechanical engineering remaining level.

In mechanical engineering the marginal decline shown between the September-November average and the third quarter figure suggest that the recovery in output in this sector dating from the fourth quarter of 1977 has faltered, although it is too early to tell whether a turning point has been reached. In essence the same story applies to the electrical engineering sector where the downturn has been a little more marked. Expansion appears to be continuing at a reduced rate in the instrument engineering sector.

Within mechanical engineering the outstanding feature during the last three months has been the performance of the 'weighing machinery and power tools' industry. Output of the 'mining machinery' industry also increased appreciably. The majority of industries in the sector registered falls, the largest of which were in 'agricultural machinery' (where reduction of stockholdings by distributors may be partly responsible) and 'pumps'. Inadequate response has prevented publication of the latest estimates for six industries in the mechanical engineering sector. Nevertheless, in two cases ('machine tools' and 'industrial plant and fabricated steelwork') moderate increases are thought to have occurred. While this patchy response must cast some doubt on the figure for mechanical engineering as a whole this estimate is based on sufficiently firm overall coverage to allow publication on a provisional basis.

Little movement has taken place in the instrument engineering industries over recent months but production in the 'photographic and copying equipment', 'watches and clocks' and 'scientific and industrial instruments' industries remains at a considerably higher level than the average for 1977.

In the latest three months electrical engineering suffered falls in nine out of 12 industries in the sector. The downward plunge in output experienced by the 'records and tapes' industry has been noted previously, and is due to the problems this industry currently faces on the international front. The decline by the electrical engineering industries as a whole was only held to 1 per cent by substantial rises in the major 'electronic capital goods' and 'computers industries', the latter, regrettably, having insufficient coverage to warrant publication of the latest figures in this instance.

Inquiries: On the article and the statistics: Miss L. John, Branch EcS3A, Department of Industry, Room 607, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 5770. Requests for quarterly indices for past years: Mr P. Coulson, Branch 5, Central Statistical Office, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AG, tel. 01-233 7239.

Indices of production for engineering industries

Seasonally adjusted volume indices

MLH		1975 = 100 Weight (percentage)	1976	1977	1977 1st qtr	1977 2nd qtr	1977 3rd qtr	1977 4th qtr	1978 1st qtr p	1978 2nd qtr p	1978 3rd qtr p	1978 Sep-Nov average p	[1] Per cent change Sep-Nov on previous 3 months
3310	Agricultural machinery	1.07	96.6	93.6	99.0	88.7	94.6	92.2	92.1	100.6	85.4	82.6	−9
3320	Machine tools	2.94	83.3	80.0	82.0	78.8	79.3	80.0	79.6	79.0	81.0	[2]	
3331	Pumps	1.33	107.6	110.9	112.3	114.6	112.7	103.9	104.8	114.3	111.0	103.9	−8
3332	Valves	1.87	91.2	96.3	98.0	88.6	104.6	94.2	94.6	95.7	98.9	95.1	−3
3333/4	Compressors	1.90	97.9	101.4	100.8	98.8	101.5	104.7	104.4	101.9	102.3	102.1	−
3340	Industrial engines	1.54	100.9	109.3	112.4	104.8	108.6	111.3	106.0	110.6	102.9	103.3	−2
3350	Textile machinery	1.89	69.6	46.7	52.0	43.3	42.8	48.8	40.8	42.9	39.0	40.2	−1
3360	Construction equipment	2.99	99.1	100.0	110.3	95.6	98.1	96.2	89.1	96.6	89.1	87.8	−5
3370	Mechanical handling equipment	3.72	90.1	88.0	92.5	90.3	88.8	80.6	84.2	88.3	88.7	[2]	
3380	Office machinery	1.25	95.9	97.2	97.1	94.9	97.2	99.4	70.0	71.1	[2]	[2]	
3391	Mining machinery	1.54	93.1	87.2	81.4	85.6	85.9	95.8	106.7	99.4	108.3	111.7	+7
3392	Printing and paper machinery	1.05	86.7	86.6	87.2	86.3	84.1	88.9	83.0	105.7	100.0	105.2	+2
3393/4	Refrigerating and space-heating machinery	2.40	94.6	93.6	98.0	95.2	93.2	87.9	96.3	96.5	93.3	93.2	−1
3395/6	Weighing machinery and power tools	0.75	99.3	101.6	100.8	104.1	94.4	107.3	117.3	112.8	103.8	124.1	+19
3397/8	Food processing machinery packaging machinery	1.62	93.6	90.0	90.6	89.2	97.4	82.7	86.6	88.6	92.5	[2]	
3399	Other non-electrical machinery	3.79	96.5	96.5	110.2	93.3	90.2	92.2	103.3	92.1	99.3	97.8	+2
3414	Constructional steelwork	3.51	93.1	79.0	80.8	78.7	80.4	76.1	76.7	82.1	81.5	79.8	−3
3415	Industrial plant and fabricated steelwork	9.59	101.9	101.2	99.7	103.9	100.6	100.6	96.7	97.3	111.7	[2]	
3491	Ball, roller and plain bearings	1.76	99.2	97.9	102.3	98.3	96.3	94.8	95.3	95.8	93.9	89.9	−5
	Other mechanical engineering	7.64	95.6	95.5	97.0	94.6	97.6	92.8	98.6	95.6	97.9	[2]	
	Mechanical engineering	54.14	95.1	93.2	95.8	92.6	93.1	91.3	91.9	92.6	94.9	94.1	−
3510	Photographic and copying equipment	0.42	99.7	103.1	101.1	105.4	105.7	100.3	131.2	135.9	140.1	137.0	+1
3520	Watches and clocks	0.51	91.3	90.5	84.5	88.2	98.1	91.4	87.2	96.5	108.2	105.3	−
3530	Surgical instruments	1.42	91.5	89.2	91.9	88.3	89.1	87.6	87.6	85.9	89.0	[2]	
3540	Scientific and industrial instruments	4.80	98.4	102.0	98.5	103.2	102.5	103.7	102.5	110.3	109.5	110.4	+1
	Instrument engineering	7.15	96.6	98.7	96.3	99.3	99.7	99.4	100.1	105.9	107.1	107.4	+1
3610	Electrical machinery	6.81	97.6	102.1	100.1	101.3	104.2	102.6	109.5	103.9	107.5	99.7	−7
3620	Wires and cables	2.64	101.6	107.5	109.8	107.9	108.8	103.3	102.9	105.5	105.1	104.1	−1
3630	Telecommunications	4.62	86.8	72.2	72.3	71.8	73.7	71.2	65.8	70.7	65.1	64.0	−5
3640	Electronic components	5.18	106.6	121.4	120.2	122.0	120.5	123.0	132.8	135.6	136.2	134.3	−1
3651	Records and tapes	0.59	93.1	95.7	105.9	92.6	89.1	95.2	97.3	108.3	89.1	72.7	−25
3652	Broadcasting equipment	1.73	92.4	89.7	87.2	84.4	96.5	90.7	92.3	110.8	100.8	101.4	−3
3660	Computers	3.20	103.4	122.4	107.5	116.4	132.9	133.0	144.3	140.4	162.7	[2]	
3670	Electronic capital goods	5.37	104.5	116.0	114.3	113.7	114.5	121.4	118.6	117.3	120.6	125.2	+5
3680	Domestic electrical appliances	3.10	92.2	93.2	100.5	88.3	93.8	90.1	86.8	94.2	95.7	98.5	−2
3691	Electric parts for vehicles	2.15	97.3	89.7	94.5	98.2	75.1	91.0	99.1	90.2	91.3	88.5	−2
3692/3	Batteries	1.19	99.2	98.4	101.3	88.5	99.0	104.6	101.6	113.1	110.6	106.3	−6
3694	Lamps and other electrical	2.14	96.4	98.0	100.6	98.7	98.1	94.8	106.9	108.6	105.0	107.5	+1
	Electrical engineering	38.71	98.5	102.7	102.0	101.3	103.4	104.1	107.4	108.6	110.0	108.7	−1
	Combined engineering	100.00	96.5	97.3	98.3	96.4	97.6	96.8	98.4	99.8	101.6	100.7	−

[1] This column is updated monthly, hence comparisons with the quarterly indices in the preceding columns should be undertaken with care. [2] Not available owing to insufficient response. p Provisional.

Sharp rise in export orders for machine tools continues

Metal-working machine tool industry: volume of sales and orders up to October

When the latest three-monthly period (August to October) is compared with May to July, both the trend and the seasonally adjusted estimates in table 1 [1] show that the total volume of new orders for machine tools has risen sharply. The trend of total sales shows a 2 per cent improvement in the three-monthly comparison but reference to the seasonally adjusted series suggests that the movement may well have levelled out in recent months if not actually turned down.

Export sales, after having remained consistently above the level of new orders from the middle of 1977, have, during the last three months, failed to match the inflow. Export order books have lengthened in consequence. The seasonally adjusted figures suggest that export sales are now turning down. Nevertheless, the trend of new export orders is strongly rising and the three-monthly comparisons for both trend and seasonally adjusted figures are unusually buoyant. It would therefore seem that export sales should turn up again later this year.

Home sales are currently rising slowly after a quiescent spell earlier in the year. Again, new orders look promising, although less so than for the export market. Order books have lengthened in response to the encouraging in flow of new orders.

Inquiries: Department of Industry, Mechanical Engineering Statistics, Room 610, Dean Bradley House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 6044.

[1] The table accompanying this article is in volume terms and not, as hitherto, at current prices. A table at current prices and a fuller description of the changes made is available in the Business Monitor PM 332 for October 1979 – of which this article is an extract.

Economic Trends

A monthly journal, compiled by the Central Statistical Office, for those who want to follow the main trends of the economic situation in the United Kingdom. It brings together the main statistical series of employment, output, consumption, trade and finance, and each issue contains special feature articles on some aspect of the statistics.

Price £2.10 (by post £2.20). Annual subscription including annual supplement and postage £31.41. From HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

ISSN 0013-0400

Table 1 **Trend and seasonally-adjusted volume index numbers for metal-working machine tool industry – MLH332**

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders on hand (end of period) 1975 average = 100	New orders 1975 average monthly sales = 100	Sales	Orders on hand (end of period) 1975 average = 100	New orders 1975 average monthly sales = 100	Sales	Orders on hand (end of period) 1975 average = 100	New orders 1975 average monthly sales = 100	Sales
Ratio of orders on hand/ average monthly sales in 1975	5.5			4.7			6.8		
Trend estimates									
1976									
April	64	67	85	64	71	83	64	61	87
May	62	68	82	63	75	82	61	58	82
June	61	72	81	62	80	82	59	58	78
July	60	75	80	63	85	83	58	60	74
August	60	79	80	63	89	85	57	62	71
September	60	82	81	63	91	88	56	66	69
October	60	84	82	64	92	91	57	72	69
November	61	86	84	64	92	93	57	77	69
December	61	87	84	63	90	93	59	81	69
1977									
January	61	87	83	63	90	92	60	82	69
February	62	87	82	63	90	90	61	81	68
March	63	86	80	64	92	88	62	77	67
April	64	86	78	65	95	86	63	71	65
May	65	85	78	66	96	86	63	67	65
June	66	85	78	68	96	85	63	67	66
July	66	85	78	69	95	84	63	69	69
August	67	85	79	71	94	83	63	70	71
September	68	84	78	72	92	82	63	71	73
October	69	84	79	74	92	82	62	70	74
November	69	84	79	75	94	82	62	67	74
December	70	84	80	77	97	83	61	64	74
1978									
January	70	83	80	79	98	84	59	59	73
February	70	81	80	81	96	85	58	55	72
March	70	77	79	82	92	84	56	53	71
April	69	75	79	82	88	84	54	52	71
May	69	74	79	82	86	84	52	54	70
June	68	76	79	82	86	85	51	59	69
July	68	80	79	83	88	86	51	66	69
August	69	84	80	83	91	87	51	73	69
September	70	87	81	84	93	87	52	78	69
October	70	90	81	85	95	88	53	82	70
Percentage change (a) (b) July-October 1978	+3.0	+13.0	+2.0	+2.5	+8.0	+2.0	+4.0	+24.0	+2.0
Seasonally adjusted									
1973	128	134	98	137	141	106	118	123	85
1974	133	105	102	133	103	106	133	108	96
1975	74	60	100	73	64	100	75	53	100
1976	59	74	84	61	79	87	57	65	79
1977	70	87	80	77	95	86	61	73	70
1977									
1st qtr	63	92	82	64	96	90	63	86	68
2nd qtr	66	86	79	69	99	87	63	67	67
3rd qtr	67	82	78	71	90	83	62	70	71
4th qtr	70	85	79	77	96	83	61	68	73
1978									
1st qtr	70	81	80	82	96	85	55	55	72
2nd qtr	67	71	78	81	82	84	50	51	69
3rd qtr	70	83	80	84	94	87	52	78	70
1977									
January	62	120	95	63	117	102	61	125	84
February	62	76	77	63	86	86	61	60	61
March	63	81	73	64	85	81	63	74	61
April	63	79	79	63	85	87	63	68	67
May	65	88	76	66	102	81	63	66	66
June	66	92	82	69	108	91	63	66	68
July	67	87	79	70	95	87	63	73	65
August	67	80	77	71	92	82	63	62	67
September	67	80	80	71	82	80	62	76	79
October	68	86	78	73	93	79	62	75	76
November	70	85	74	76	93	76	62	71	71
December	70	85	85	77	102	93	61	57	72
1978									
January	70	79	79	79	94	83	59	54	73
February	71	90	80	81	104	85	58	67	71
March	70	73	81	82	91	86	55	44	73
April	71	82	74	85	96	76	54	59	71
May	68	64	83	82	71	92	52	52	69
June	67	66	78	81	81	84	50	43	67
July	68	92	79	83	98	84	51	81	71
August	68	76	81	82	84	89	50	64	69
September	70	96	81	84	101	87	52	89	70
October	72	94	78	86	98	89	55	89	60
1978 (AV) August-October	70	89	80	84	94	88	53	80	66
1978 (AV) May-July	68	74	80	82	83	87	51	59	69
Percentage change (a) (b)	+3.0	+20.0	—	+2.5	+13.0	+2.0	+3.0	+37.5	−4.0

(a) For orders on hand the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period.
(b) The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values.

Wool textile industry: output in November and exports in the fourth quarter

The volume of production in the wool textile industry (as measured by the seasonally-adjusted index of production) in November 1978 was 4 per cent lower than in November 1977. Statistics issued by the Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics show that in the period January to November 1978 woven fabrics (excluding blankets) were 4 per cent lower than the period January to November 1977; deliveries of worsted yarns (excluding semi-worsted yarn) were also 4 per cent lower. Production of wool and hair tops was 7 per cent less and that of man-made fibre tops was 3 per cent less.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Carpet industry sales in November

The daily rate of carpet manufacturer's sales by value in November 1978 at current prices was provisionally estimated to have been 8 per cent more than in November 1977 assuming 22 working days in November 1978 and 22 working days in November 1977. In the three months ended November 1978 the daily rate of manufacturers' sales was provisionally estimated to have been 12 per cent more than in the corresponding period 12 months ago assuming 65 working days in the period ended November 1978 and 65 working days in the period ended November 1977. The index numbers which are of manufacturers' sales by value, have been adjusted for the length of the working month, but not for non-statutory holidays or other seasonal factors. The wholesale price index of carpets is shown as a guide to the movement in prices.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017.

Index of carpet manufacturers' sales 1975 = 100

	Index of manufacturers' sales at current prices	Wholesale price index
1974	179	86.7
1975	202	100.0
1976	234	115.7
1977	255	134.7
1977		
3rd	230	135.8
4th	292	139.2
1978		
1st qtr	270	145.8
2nd	280	147.0
3rd	272	151.8
1977		
August	202	135.5
September	280	137.0
October	293	139.0
November	297	139.0
1978		
August	240	152.5
September	328	154.1
October	321	154.3
November	321	154.3

Output in the wool textile industry

	Consumption	Production			Deliveries			
	Raw wool (clean weight)	Tops		Woollen yarn [1]	Worsted yarn [2]	Woven fabrics (excluding blankets) [1]		Blankets [3]
		Wool and hair	Man-made fibres			Woollen	Worsted	
	million kg					million sq m		
1968	177.5	96.6	36.4	147.4	98.2	135.8	110.6	27.3
1969	174.5	92.0	42.2	142.2	100.5	130.1	109.2	26.9
1970	153.1	79.7	44.6	129.4	97.6	115.5	99.8	24.6
1971	141.2	66.2	36.6	130.7	93.0	101.9	83.9	28.5
1972	152.3	75.1	45.9	130.9	101.6	99.8	83.7	28.8
1973	136.6	62.2	55.9	135.2	100.0	104.0	88.4	30.6
1974	112.6	43.9	54.8	122.5	87.2	92.1	82.6	28.1
1975	110.6	46.8	44.4	112.1	75.5	76.8	74.6	24.7
1976	119.7	56.5	47.2	108.0	80.8	73.6	69.4	22.8
1977	113.5	52.3	45.3	105.7	81.2	78.8	71.3	22.2
1976								
1st qtr	31.0	13.8	11.6	29.4	20.6	16.9	18.2	6.5
2nd	30.5	14.5	12.1	27.9	20.3	19.6	16.9	4.4
3rd	27.6	13.4	10.6	23.7	18.2	19.4	16.9	5.2
4th	30.6	14.6	13.0	27.0	21.7	17.9	17.5	6.5
1977								
1st qtr	32.4	15.3	12.6	29.0	23.1	19.6	18.8	6.7
2nd	29.8	13.9	11.9	27.2	20.2	21.1	18.1	4.8
3rd	24.5	11.1	10.4	23.0	17.5	19.7	16.4	4.4
4th	26.8	12.0	10.4	26.5	20.4	18.4	18.0	6.2
1978								
1st qtr	29.5	13.6	10.6	27.7	20.8	18.5	17.3	5.8
2nd	28.4	12.8	10.8	27.2	19.6	21.6	16.8	4.8
3rd	24.1	10.8	10.3	23.4	17.9	19.1	15.8	5.0
1977								
January	10.3	5.0	4.0	9.0	7.2	5.8	5.9	2.4
February	10.2	4.8	4.0	9.1	7.5	6.2	6.0	2.2
March	11.9	5.5	4.6	10.8	8.4	7.6	6.9	2.1
April	9.6	4.6	3.8	8.6	6.4	6.6	5.7	1.7
May	11.1	5.2	4.7	10.0	7.6	7.4	6.6	1.6
June	9.1	4.1	3.4	8.6	6.2	7.1	5.8	1.5
July	7.9	4.2	3.9	6.5	5.6	6.0	5.2	1.1
August	7.6	2.9	2.9	8.4	5.4	6.5	5.2	1.6
September	9.0	4.0	3.6	8.2	6.5	7.2	6.0	1.7
October	9.1	3.9	4.4	9.2	7.1	6.9	6.4	2.0
November	9.7	4.5	3.6	9.5	7.4	6.7	6.5	2.1
December	8.0	3.6	2.4	7.8	5.9	4.8	5.1	2.1
1978								
January	9.7	4.5	3.0	9.3	6.9	6.0	5.8	2.2
February	9.5	4.5	3.1	8.8	6.7	5.9	6.0	1.5
March	10.3	4.6	4.5	9.6	7.2	6.6	5.5	2.1
April	9.7	4.4	3.2	9.2	6.9	6.8	5.5	1.8
May	9.3	4.2	4.1	8.8	6.4	6.9	5.4	1.5
June	9.4	4.2	3.5	9.2	6.3	7.9	5.9	1.5
July	7.8	4.1	3.9	6.6	5.3	6.3	5.0	1.3
August	7.3	2.7	2.4	8.2	6.0	5.9	5.1	1.6
September	9.0	4.0	4.0	8.6	6.6	6.9	5.7	2.1
October	9.1	3.8	4.2	9.7	7.5	6.8	5.9	2.1
November		4.4	3.6	10.5	7.0	6.8	6.0	2.0

Notes to table

[1] Estimated. [2] From January 1969 includes semi-worsted yarn: previously yarn of this type was not separately distinguished and the small quantities involved were divided between the worsted yarn headings. In November deliveries of semi-worsted yarn were 0.9 million kg. [3] Woven woollen fabrics include fabrics which are mainly woollen by weight of components and, similarly, woven worsted fabrics include fabrics which are mainly worsted by weight of components.

Exports of wool textile products

	Total	Wool tops [1]		Yarns		Woven fabrics [2]		Other wool textile products [3]
	£m	£m	Mn kilos	£m	Mn kilos	£m	Mn sq m	£m
1968	114.80	23.94	25.44	20.44	14.34	66.14	69.42	4.28
1969	125.41	26.55	26.01	23.32	16.08	71.08	69.46	4.45
1970	117.25	20.38	21.08	23.37	15.85	70.00	62.51	3.50
1971	106.82	16.28	18.66	23.28	15.88	62.57	54.30	4.70
1972	118.49	19.80	20.51	27.28	18.13	66.48	56.32	4.93
1973	172.32	38.06	21.36	36.95	18.28	91.08	60.39	6.24
1974	180.44	26.15	16.15	41.56	15.56	105.84	52.80	6.89
1975	165.22	28.53	16.19	37.42	13.83	92.08	43.33	7.20
1976	219.07	50.55	20.71	56.03	17.04	104.28	44.58	8.21
1977	294.82	56.92	17.43	77.53	18.02	151.29	51.81	9.08
1978	302.72	51.07	15.04	72.13	16.07	169.54	52.37	9.98
1976								
1st qtr	43.48	10.96	5.06	11.13	4.04	19.52	9.30	1.87
2nd	56.27	13.35	5.34	13.70	4.36	27.41	11.65	1.82
3rd	55.38	11.64	4.42	13.57	3.98	28.22	12.21	1.95
4th	63.94	14.59	5.89	17.64	4.66	29.14	11.42	2.57
1977								
1st qtr	71.46	18.02	5.43	20.04	5.02	30.89	11.91	2.51
2nd	75.23	15.83	4.84	19.89	4.65	37.18	12.74	2.33
3rd	75.83	11.69	3.52	17.81	3.94	43.46	14.28	2.87
4th	72.30	11.38	3.64	19.79	4.41	39.76	12.88	1.37
1978								
1st qtr	71.00	12.98	4.10	19.11	4.29	36.76	11.62	2.15
2nd	80.81	12.85	3.73	18.46	4.18	47.05	14.64	2.45
3rd	74.34	12.54	3.56	15.28	3.38	44.05	13.60	2.47
4th	76.57	12.70	3.65	19.28	4.22	41.68	12.51	2.91

[1] From the first quarter 1976 figures are not strictly comparable with previous periods. [2] Excluding mechanical cloths from January 1970. [3] Wool or other animal hair, carded or combed; felts, wholly or partly of wool; blankets; travelling rugs; woollen and worsted felts; and other made-up textile articles, not individually specified in the export list, of sheeps' or lambs' wool or fine animal hair. Other commodities of, or containing, wool or animal hair not included in the table: sheeps' or lambs' wool and fine or coarse animal hair not carded or combed; noils, rags and other waste; carpets; garments; smallwares; knitted or crocheted fabrics; woven fabrics predominantly of man-made fibres containing sheeps' or lambs' wool or fine animal hair.

Man-made fibres: deliveries in fourth quarter, production in December and analysis of production in fourth quarter

Deliveries of staple fibre [1]

Thousand metric tonnes

	Total	Home					Exports [2]
		Total	Cotton spinning	Wool spinning	Flax spinning	Other systems and sundries	
1968	282.4	173.1	52.3	58.2	26.3	36.3	109.3
1969	299.3	169.2	51.1	51.5	28.0	38.6	130.1
1970	329.4	191.4	57.6	57.1	31.5	45.2	138.1
1971	338.7	185.9	59.6	50.1	29.3	46.9	152.9

	Total	Home				Exports [2]
		Total	Cotton spinning	Wool spinning	Other systems and sundries	
1972	363.9	186.4	49.5	33.4	103.5	177.5
1973	434.8	235.4	62.8	56.0	116.7	199.4
1974	346.1	190.4	51.4	51.1	87.9	155.7
1975	283.2	158.8	39.4	50.1	69.3	124.4
1976	351.3	184.6	47.0	53.0	84.6	166.7
1977	340.6	171.5	41.4	46.5	83.6	169.1
1978	364.2	179.0	38.2	47.0	93.7	185.4
1976						
1st qtr	83.2	44.4	11.5	12.5	20.5	38.8
2nd	86.7	46.7	11.9	13.0	21.8	40.0
3rd	78.4	41.3	10.8	12.9	17.5	37.1
4th	103.1	52.2	12.8	14.7	24.7	50.9
1977						
1st qtr	105.0	48.7	12.5	13.1	23.1	56.3
2nd	84.1	43.4	11.1	12.6	19.7	40.7
3rd	78.2	37.2	7.6	10.5	19.1	41.0
4th	73.2	42.1	10.2	10.3	21.6	31.1
1978						
1st qtr	86.7	44.9	8.5	11.1	25.3	41.8
2nd	93.0	45.1	9.8	12.6	22.7	48.0
3rd	87.4	41.3	9.5	10.9	20.8	46.2
4th	97.1	47.7	10.4	12.4	24.9	49.4

[1] The classification of end uses was revised in January 1972, and the figures for deliveries to individual industries from the first quarter 1972 are not comparable with those for earlier years. [2] The figures refer to deliveries from the industry direct for export and may differ from the totals recorded as exports in the monthly Overseas Trade Statistics.

Deliveries of continuous filament yarns [1]

Thousand metric tonnes

	Total	Home							Exports as yarn [2]
		Total	Broad weaving	Carpets and rugs	Weft knitting	Warp knitting	Industrial purposes (tyres, etc)	Other purposes	
1968	238.4	188.9	35.3	4.7	54.9	32.0	52.2	9.8	49.4
1969	242.7	193.6	33.7	5.5	51.9	35.3	58.8	8.4	49.1
1970	254.8	198.1	28.2	7.1	63.7	38.0	53.3	7.8	56.7
1971	261.4	198.7	25.3	8.7	69.9	41.4	43.5	9.9	62.7

	Total	Home						Exports as yarn [2]
		Total	Broad weaving	Carpets and rugs	Warp knitting	Industrial purposes (tyres, etc)	Other purposes	Textured or texturing for all purposes other than carpets or industrial	
1972	270.1	198.7	25.1	13.4	40.4	40.8	10.0	69.0	71.4
1973	313.6	227.5	25.8	19.4	46.6	45.4	13.0	77.4	86.1
1974	259.4	188.6	22.3	14.1	35.8	35.1	11.9	69.3	70.8
1975	246.9	185.8	21.7	17.3	33.1	35.4	10.5	67.8	61.1
1976	271.2	192.4	19.5	22.2	31.1	38.3	14.8	66.6	78.8
1977	239.8	167.9	18.9	16.9	26.0	35.5	10.8	59.7	72.0
1978	244.0	163.8	18.6	16.1	23.6	30.2	9.1	66.2	78.8
1976									
1st qtr	71.4	50.7	5.0	5.9	9.1	10.5	3.7	16.6	20.6
2nd	66.6	46.7	4.9	4.8	7.5	9.3	3.4	16.7	19.9
3rd	62.5	43.5	4.4	5.2	6.7	8.5	3.3	15.5	19.0
4th	70.7	51.4	5.2	6.3	7.8	10.0	4.4	17.8	19.3
1977									
1st qtr	64.9	45.9	5.2	5.2	7.5	9.4	3.1	15.5	19.1
2nd	60.3	41.7	4.8	3.7	6.6	9.2	2.7	14.7	18.6
3rd	54.7	37.9	4.3	3.3	5.5	8.4	2.2	14.2	16.8
4th	59.9	42.4	4.6	4.8	6.3	8.5	2.9	15.3	17.6
1978									
1st qtr	63.4	41.2	4.9	4.2	6.1	8.0	2.2	15.9	22.2
2nd qtr	61.7	41.9	4.7	3.9	6.0	8.0	2.4	16.8	19.8
3rd	56.1	36.9	4.1	3.6	5.3	6.5	2.2	15.1	17.8
4th	62.8	43.8	4.9	4.4	6.2	7.7	2.3	18.4	19.0

[1] The classification of end uses was revised in January 1968 and the figures for deliveries to individual industries 1968 to 1971 might not be fully comparable with those for earlier years. From January 1972 a further reclassification was introduced: deliveries of textured yarns and yarns for texturing, which were previously included in the figures for individual industries, are shown separately from the first quarter 1972. [2] The figures refer to deliveries from the industry direct for export and may differ from the totals recorded as exports in the monthly Overseas Trade Statistics.

Source: Man-made Fibres Producers Committee.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017/6474.

Production of man-made fibres in December

In the three months ended December 1978 the volume of production of man-made fibres, seasonally adjusted was estimated to have been 4 per cent higher than in the three months ended September 1978. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in January-December 1978 was 10 per cent higher than in January-December 1977, output of continuous filament increased by 1 per cent and staple fibre increased by 17 per cent.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Deliveries of man-made fibres in the fourth quarter

Total deliveries of man-made fibres in the fourth quarter of 1978 were 20 per cent more than in the fourth quarter of 1977. Deliveries of continuous filament yarns to the home trade was 3 per cent more than in the fourth quarter of 1977, while deliveries of staple fibre were 13 per cent more.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Man-made fibre production

Thousand metric tonnes

	Total	Continuous filament (singles)	Staple fibre
1968	539.1	241.8	297.4
1969	553.9	252.5	301.5
1970	599.4	257.6	341.9
1971	613.1	276.4	336.7
1972	626.5	264.0	362.5
1973	730.8	305.6	425.3
1974	627.6	271.0	356.6
1975	562.5	246.5	316.0
1976	618.4	270.7	347.7
1977	551.8	239.3	312.5
1978	607.2	240.6	366.6
1976			
1st qtr	159.8	70.0	89.8
2nd	157.5	69.7	87.7
3rd	140.4	62.4	78.0
4th	160.7	68.6	92.1
1977			
1st qtr	154.9	67.2	87.7
2nd	150.8	63.9	86.8
3rd	131.0	55.2	75.8
4th	115.1	53.0	62.1
1978			
1st qtr	150.1	60.6	89.5
2nd	156.2	62.2	94.0
3rd	141.6	56.8	84.8
4th	159.3	61.0	98.3
1977			
July	49.5	20.8	28.7
August	37.6	16.0	21.6
September	43.9	18.4	25.5
October	43.5	18.2	25.4
November	36.8	17.9	18.9
December	34.8	17.0	17.8
1978			
January	44.2	19.1	25.1
February	47.6	19.0	28.7
March	58.2	22.5	35.7
April	48.3	19.1	29.2
May	58.5	22.7	35.8
June	49.3	20.3	29.0
July	45.9	18.8	27.1
August	48.2	19.3	28.9
September	47.5	18.7	28.8
October	57.2	21.1	36.1
November	54.3	22.3	32.0
December	47.9	17.7	30.2

Source: Production stats: Man-made Fibres Producers Committee. Index of production: Department of Industry.

Index of the volume of production 1975 = 100

1973	129
1974	111
1975	100
1976	110
1977	98
1978	105

	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1976		
1st qtr	114	111
2nd	113	109
3rd	100	106
4th	112	112
1977		
1st qtr	111	108
2nd	107	103
3rd	91	97
4th	82	82
1978		
1st qtr	106	102
2nd	108	105
3rd	97	104
4th	109	109
1977		
January	102	106
February	116	109
March	116	111
April	110	105
May	100	100
June	110	104
July	101	107
August	78	93
September	94	92
October	88	86
November	83	80
December	75	81
1978		
January	92	95
February	107	100
March	117	112
April	102	97
May	118	118
June	106	99
July	94	100
August	97	116
September	100	97
October	114	111
November	116	113
December	96	103

Analysis of production of man-made fibres in the fourth quarter

Production by weight of synthetic fibres in the fourth quarter of 1978 was 40 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1977 while production of viscose and acetate fibres was 35 per cent higher. Within the total for synthetic fibres, production of continuous filament yarns was 21 per cent more and staple fibre 61 per cent more. Under the heading 'viscose and acetate' production of continuous filament yarns decreased by 1 per cent and staple fibre increased by 55 per cent compared with the fourth quarter 1977.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Analysis of man-made fibre production

Thousand metric tons

	Total		Continuous filament		Staple fibre	
	Synthetic	Viscose + acetate	Synthetic	Viscose + acetate	Synthetic	Viscose + acetate
1968	268.4	270.8	144.3	97.5	124.1	173.3
1969	291.4	262.5	155.9	96.6	135.5	166.0
1970	336.9	262.5	166.6	90.9	170.3	161.6
1971	357.3	255.7	191.2	85.2	166.1	170.6
1972	373.9	252.6	196.4	67.6	177.5	185.0
1973	453.9	277.0	233.0	72.6	220.9	204.4
1974	396.1	231.5	200.3	70.7	195.8	160.8
1975	361.1	201.4	184.0	62.5	177.1	138.9
1976	414.2	204.2	200.1	70.6	214.1	133.6
1977	358.8	193.0	170.7	62.6	182.1	130.4
1978	406.2	200.8	180.8	59.7	225.4	141.1
1976						
1st qtr	104.2	55.6	52.0	18.0	52.2	37.6
2nd	105.1	52.4	52.0	17.7	53.1	34.7
3rd	97.8	42.6	46.2	16.2	51.6	26.4
4th	107.2	53.5	49.9	18.6	57.3	34.8
1977						
1st qtr	102.7	52.2	49.3	17.9	53.4	34.3
2nd	98.9	51.9	47.8	16.1	51.1	35.8
3rd	82.7	48.3	40.9	14.3	41.8	34.0
4th	74.5	40.6	38.7	14.3	35.8	26.3
1978						
1st	99.6	50.4	45.0	15.5	54.6	34.9
2nd	108.3	47.8	46.8	15.4	61.5	32.4
3rd	93.9	47.7	42.2	14.6	51.7	33.1
4th	104.4	54.9	46.8	14.2	57.6	40.7

The heading 'Viscose + acetate' includes triacetate.

Cotton industry: production in December

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in January-December 1978 the amount of cloth woven was 3 per cent lower than in January-December 1977. Production of single yarn decreased by 5 per cent and doubled yarn decreased by 13 per cent.
Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 6474.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn [1]		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn [2]	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg				million m	
1971	133.0	83.3		85.0	559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7		75.4	513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5		82.1	453.2	502.3
1974	101.3	87.7		74.7	409.5	505.3
1975	94.4	76.4		68.4	405.4	503.0
1976	106.9	76.1		69.4	374.5	492.9
1977	98.1	77.6		69.8	368.3	497.5
1978	91.3	75.8		60.6	380.0	458.4
1977						
Jan	2.2	1.7		1.5	7.7	10.3
Feb	2.3	1.7		1.6	7.9	10.7
Mar [3]	2.2	1.8		1.6	7.9	10.7
Apr	1.7	1.4		1.2	6.3	8.8
May	2.3	1.9		1.6	7.9	11.1
June [3]	1.5	1.2		1.1	6.9	8.8
July	1.6	1.2		1.2	4.3	7.5
August [3]	1.9	1.5		1.4	7.6	9.5
Sep	1.5	1.2		1.2	6.3	9.0
Oct	2.0	1.6		1.4	7.9	10.5
Nov [3]	2.0	1.6		1.4	7.8	10.2
Dec	1.4	1.1		1.0	5.9	7.6
1978						
Jan	2.0	1.5		1.3	7.7	10.0
Feb	2.0	1.6		1.3	8.0	10.0
Mar [3]	1.6	1.2		1.1	6.8	8.2
Apr	2.0	1.6		1.3	8.2	9.4
May [3]	1.8	1.6		1.2	7.5	8.7
Jun	1.4	1.3		1.0	8.2	8.8
July	1.6	1.3		1.1	4.6	6.6
August [3]	1.8	1.6		1.2	7.9	8.6
Sep	1.5	1.3		1.0	6.5	8.2
Oct	1.9	1.7		1.3	8.0	10.0
Nov [3]	2.0	1.7		1.3	8.0	9.7
Dec	1.4	1.2		1.0	5.9	7.6

[1] Spun in cotton industry. [2] Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. [3] Average of five weeks.

Statistical News

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Hosiery and other knitted goods: index of production in December

In the three months ended December 1978 the volume of production of hosiery and other knitted goods (including knitted fabrics), seasonally adjusted, was provisionally estimated to have been 11 per cent lower than in the three months ended December 1977.

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent years. The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months, but not for other seasonal variations.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Hosiery and other knitted goods, including warp knitting 1975 = 100

	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1973	105	
1974	103	
1975	100	
1976	106	
1977	106	
1978 p	102	
1976		
1st qtr	92	102
2nd	99	104
3rd	107	107
4th	124	109
1977		
1st qtr	97	107
2nd	98	104
3rd	108	108
4th	121	105
1978		
1st qtr	93	104
2nd	99	104
3rd p	108	107
4th p	107	93
1977		
January	95	112
February	99	104
March	97	105
1977 contd.		
April	94	104
May	100	104
June	100	104
July	99	108
August	102	106
September	123	108
October	131	103
November	127	103
December	104	110
1978		
January	88	102
February	100	106
March	92	105
April	101	108
May	93	101
June	103	103
July p	94	102
August p	109	112
September p	121	106
October p	124	97
November p	114	93
December p	83	88

p Provisional.

Output steady

Preliminary estimate of gross domestic product, based on output data, for the fourth quarter of 1978 is 108.4 (at constant prices, with 1975 = 100, and seasonally adjusted). The estimate, published by the Central Statistical Office on Monday, suggests that output in the fourth quarter was at much the same level as in the preceding two quarter.

Some losses in industrial production, mainly as a result of industrial disputes, were largely offset by higher levels of activity in other sectors, in particular distribution and communications.

This preliminary estimate is based on the provisional estimate of the index of industrial production for the fourth quarter published on 13 February together with partial information about output in the rest of the economy. The output-based gdp estimate is usually considered to be the most reliable measure of short-term movements.

Patents recorded 'licences of right'

Under section 46 of the Patents Act 1977 the register was noted 'licences of right' in respect of the following patents on the date specified:

26 January 1979

1509346 Nissan Motor Co Ltd
Method of forming porous coating on electrode layer of concentration cell type oxygen sensor
1509987 Nissan Motor Co Ltd
Rotary piston internal combustion engine and rotor thereof
1510743 Nissan Motor Co Ltd
Constant velocity universal joint
1511955 Nissan Motor Co Ltd
Closed-loop mixture control system for an internal combustion engine with fail-safe circuit arrangement
1512347 Nissan Motor Co Ltd
Oxygen sensor with noncatalytic electrode
1512599 Nissan Motor Co Ltd
Sensor for detecting variation in oxygen concentration in gas
1515462 Nissan Motor Co Ltd
Reactor and method preparing same
1446162 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Improved method of making an armature
1469889 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Apex seal for a rotary internal combustion engine
1477421 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Carburetor
1483397 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Carburetor having cold enrichment control
1493533 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Controlling choke valves of IC engine carburetors
1494044 Ford Motor Co Ltd
Intake manifold
1496132 The Post Office
A facsimile system including apparatus for correcting the timescale of a signal derived from a dynamic magnetic record
1505342 The Post Office
Improvements in or relating to encoders
1429380 Gilardini SpA
Thermostatic valve
1466039 Raffinerie Tirlemontoise
Sharpening machine for root-cutting knives
1490422 ITT Industries Inc
Integrated semi conductor device for the line scanning of an image

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1494776 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Gas-dynamic pressure-wave machine and method of operating the machine
1497744 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
High temperature alloy
1504650 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Thermal power plant with oxygen-fed compressed-gas generator
1505794 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Method of producing a body of course grained structure from a superalloy and a body by this method
1509243 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Method of producing a superconductor
1511586 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Reflector for liquid crystal indicators and a method of production of it
1516129 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Shaft seal
1516561 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Method of prolonging the service life of metallic bodies
1107318 Patelhold Patentvertwerungs- and Elektro-Holdings AG
High-efficiency transmitter output stage
1138693 Patelhold Patentvertwerungs- and Elektro-Holdings AG
Device for compensating for distortion of electical pulses produced by transmission
1159320 Patelhold Patentvertwerungs- and Elektro-Holdings AG
Device for synchronising pulse-generators
1238200 Patelhold Patentvertwerungs- and Elektro-Holdings AG
Improvements in and relating to a dipole aerial
1260714 Patelhold Patentvertwerungs- and Elektro-Holdings AG
Address coded communication system
1261771 Patelhold Patentvertwerungs- and Elektro-Holdings AG
Apparatus for producing synchronisation in address-coded communication systems
17364634 Patelhold Patentvertwerungs- and Elektro-Holdings AG
Apparatus for automatically checking pulse-distortion correction in a signal channel
1478196 Patelhold Patentvertwerungs- and Elektro-Holdings AG
A filter for electromagnetic waves
1217319 Alfred Blake
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1400015 Alfred Blake
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1494042 Alfred Blake
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1296830 Richard Furneaux Kinnersley
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1174732 Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft
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1436834 Cockerill-Ougree-Providence et Esperance-Longdoz En Abrege 'Cockerill'
Chromising the inner surface of a ferrous metal pipe
1470124 Tiszai Vegyi Kombinat
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1490413 Metalimphy
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1493468 International Standard Electric Corporation
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1495695 Eric Marshall Ford
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1509043 UCB
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1492261 Societe d'Optique, Precision Electronique et Mecanique – Sopelem
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1514236 Societe d'Optique, Precision Electronique et Mecanique – Sopelem
Improvements in and relating to an instrument for measuring small deviations
1516913 Societe d'Optique, Precision Electronique et Mecanique – Sopelem
Improvements in securing a component in a housing
1470199 Societe d'Optique, Precision Electronique et Mecanique – Sopelem
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1460770 Creusot-Loire
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1467626 Creusot-Loire
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1489368 Creusot-Loire
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1506490 Creusot-Loire
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1514003 Creusot-Loire
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1514299 Creusot-Loire
Improvements in and relating to quenching sheet metal
1179988 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
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1500741 Societe Nouvelle Des Ateliers De Venissieux
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1525900 Sprague Electric Co
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1147318 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Improvements in RF cathodic spluttering systems
1354891 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
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1261245 Agfa-Gevaert
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1406381 Laboratoire Roger Bellon
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1434513 Wilfred Cartwright
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1217393 Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd
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1222958 Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd
Improvements in or relating to induction systems for internal combustion engines
1253307 Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd
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1388032 Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd
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1432698 Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd
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1446992 Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd
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1488832 Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd
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1499815 Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd
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1526573 Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd
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Hydraulic intensifier for machine tools
1517525 Transform Verstarkungsmaschinen AG
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1407283 Bayerisches Leichtmetallwork Graf Blucher
Forging die and method
1435056 Geoffrey William Thomas
Mounting for vices and small apparatus

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I. J. G. Davis, Comptroller

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Price £2.10. ISSN 0308-6666. Annual subscription including supplement of definitions and postage £30.16. From HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

Motor vehicle production in January

Cars

Seasonally adjusted production of 93 000 was 9 per cent below the average for 1978.

January recorded production of 92 000 was 17 per cent below that of last January. Production for export fell by 24 per cent, and that for the home market by 10 per cent, compared with January 1978.

Commercial vehicles

Seasonally adjusted production of 35 000 was 7 per cent above the 1978 average.

January recorded production of 32 000 was 3 per cent above that of last January. Production for export fell by 23 per cent, while that for the home market rose by 26 per cent, compared with January 1978.

Table 1 **Car and commercial vehicle production**

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and unassembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery-operated road vehicles are excluded.

	No of weeks	Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
		For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1969	53	892 758	824 315	1 717 073	32 398	272 998	192 778	465 776	8 788
1970	52	918 109	722 857	1 640 966	31 557	267 407	190 125	457 532	8 799
1971	52	1 027 462	714 478	1 741 940	33 499	268 278	187 928	456 206	8 773
1972	52	1 307 881	613 430	1 921 311	36 948	272 649	135 470	408 119	7 848
1973	52	1 142 216	605 105	1 747 321	33 602	257 574	159 049	416 623	8 012
1974	52	937 932	596 187	1 534 119	29 502	232 373	170 193	402 566	7 742
1975	52	735 532	532 164	1 267 696	24 379	194 319	186 386	380 705	7 321
1976	53	768 481	564 968	1 333 449	25 159	182 554	189 503	372 057	7 020
1977	52	753 195	562 777	1 315 972	25 307	201 445	196 823	398 268	7 659
1978	52	728 370	494 579	1 222 949	23 518	215 550	168 968	384 518	7 395
1979	52								
1978									
January	4	67 488	43 961	111 449	27 862	16 396	14 717	31 113	7 778
February	4	65 029	42 883	107 912	26 978	15 699	14 959	30 658	7 665
March	5	78 044	61 086	139 130	27 826	22 854	19 057	41 911	8 382
April	4	68 388	50 721	119 109	29 777	18 802	16 169	34 971	8 743
May	4	76 240	45 363	121 603	30 401	20 824	16 990	37 814	9 454
June	5	79 262	42 848	122 110	24 422	22 318	17 163	39 481	7 896
July	4	40 644	24 273	64 917	16 229	15 209	12 032	27 241	6 810
August	4	51 205	37 669	88,874	22 219	12 160	9 057	21 217	5 304
September	5	68 540	38 950	107 490	21 498	20 243	13 531	33 774	6 755
October	4	42 418	36 836	79 254	19 814	15 967	10 331	26 298	6 575
November	4	29 216	28 305	57 521	14 380	13 548	10 757	24 305	6 076
December	5	61 896	41 684	103 580	20 716	21 530	14 205	35 735	7 147
1979									
January	4	58 744	33 533	92 277	23 069	20 636	11 401	32 037	8 009

Note: From January 1978, Land-Rover estate vehicles were recorded as commercial vehicles rather than as passenger cars. Figures for 1977 were revised on to this basis. The number of these vehicles in 1977 was 11 848.

The seasonal adjustment factors for these series have been updated in the light of the latest information. The seasonally adjusted figures for 1978 shown in table 2 have been revised accordingly.

Inquiries: 01-212 0788.

Table 2 **Production seasonally adjusted**

Monthly average — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	15.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	51	146	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.4	14.2	33.6
1975	61	45	106	16.2	15.5	31.7
1976	64	47	111	15.2	15.8	31.0
1977	63	47	110	16.8	16.4	33.2
1978	61	41	102	18.0	14.1	32.1
1979						
1978						
January	66	45	111	17.6	15.8	33.4
February	69	43	112	15.7	15.0	30.7
March	69	52	121	19.2	16.2	35.4
April	69	48	117	19.7	16.3	36.0
May	64	40	104	19.7	14.9	34.6
June	70	38	108	19.9	14.4	34.3
July	59	37	96	19.2	14.3	33.5
August	65	50	115	17.3	14.0	31.3
September	68	39	107	18.9	13.2	32.1
October	46	37	83	15.4	10.8	26.2
November	28	27	55	12.8	11.6	24.4
December	57	38	95	20.2	12.3	32.5
1979						
January	58	35	93	22.2	12.3	34.5

Notes to table 2: The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

Cost indices for the aerospace and radio, radar and electronic capital goods industries

December's cost indices are given in table 2. An explanation of the compilation of the indices was given in *Trade and Industry*, 8 December 1978, page 544.

Multiplication factors

For the convenience of those who use the index numbers in long-term contracts, a table of multiplication factors is provided to enable users to extend the 1970 = 100 series beyond April 1978 with the monthly movements of the equivalent index in the 1975 = 100 series. These factors are obtained by dividing the 1970 = 100 index for April 1978 by the corresponding 1975 = 100 index. In order to extend the 1970 series, the appropriate monthly index on the new base is multiplied by the factor shown in the table.

Table 1 **Multiplication factors for use with cost indices (see text)**

1 BOUGHT OUT FINISHED GOODS PURCHASED BY	
Aerospace industry	1.911
Airframe sector	1.900
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	1.916
Aero-engine parts sector	1.878
Aircraft components sector	1.955
2 OTHER MATERIALS PURCHASED BY	
Aerospace industry	2.142
Airframe sector	2.015
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	2.154
Aero-engine parts sector	2.261
Aircraft components sector	2.158
3 ALL PURCHASES OF GOODS BY	
Aerospace industry	1.988
Airframe sector	1.924
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	1.997
Aero-engine parts sector	2.026
Aircraft components sector	2.073
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	1.884
4 SALARIES AND GENERAL EXPENSES	
Aerospace industry	1.929
Airframe sector	1.928
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	1.940
Aero-engine parts sector	1.884
Aircraft components sector	1.887
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	1.786
5 HOURLY EARNINGS OF ADULT MANUAL WORKERS	
Aerospace industry	2.090
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	2.197
6 COMBINED COSTS	
Aerospace industry	1.978
Airframe sector	1.947
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	1.985
Aero-engine parts sector	1.973
Aircraft components sector	1.995
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	1.894

Table 2 **Cost indices for the aerospace and radio, radar and electronic capital goods industries (MLH 383 and 367 respectively)** 1975 = 100

	1978								
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1 BOUGHT OUT FINISHED GOODS PURCHASED BY		p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	151.0	152.0	154.8	155.3	155.6	157.0	159.9	160.1	161.7
Airframe sector	149.6	150.1	151.7	152.2	152.6	154.3	157.8	158.1	160.0
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	152.3	153.8	157.4	158.1	158.3	159.4	161.8	161.9	162.6
Aero-engine parts sector	152.3	153.9	157.2	158.5	158.7	159.6	161.3	161.7	162.8
Aircraft components sector	149.3	149.9	151.5	152.3	152.7	154.2	157.2	157.6	160.0
2 OTHER MATERIALS PURCHASED BY									p
Aerospace industry	150.8	151.7	153.0	154.0	154.7	156.0	157.3	158.6	160.0
Airframe sector	153.1	153.7	155.2	156.1	156.7	157.8	158.7	159.8	161.5
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	150.4	151.1	152.6	153.8	154.6	156.4	158.2	159.9	161.6
Aero-engine parts sector	149.7	150.9	152.0	153.3	154.2	155.4	156.6	157.8	159.1
Aircraft components sector	151.0	152.3	153.2	154.2	154.7	155.8	156.8	157.8	158.6
3 ALL PURCHASES OF GOODS BY		p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	150.8	151.9	154.1	154.8	155.3	156.6	158.9	159.5	161.0
Airframe sector	150.6	151.4	153.0	153.6	154.1	155.5	158.1	158.7	160.5
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	151.7	153.1	156.1	156.9	157.3	158.5	160.8	161.3	162.4
Aero-engine parts sector	151.4	152.7	155.1	156.4	156.9	157.9	159.4	160.1	161.3
Aircraft components sector	150.3	151.6	152.7	153.6	154.1	155.3	156.9	157.7	159.0
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	149.5	150.6	151.8	152.5	152.8	154.2	156.5	157.6	p 158.7
4 SALARIES AND GENERAL EXPENSES		p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	149.5	149.3	151.4	151.4	151.6	153.3	159.0	158.7	160.8
Airframe sector	148.2	148.1	150.1	150.1	150.3	152.0	157.2	156.9	159.1
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	151.0	150.8	152.9	153.0	153.2	154.3	160.9	160.7	162.6
Aero-engine parts sector	152.2	152.1	154.1	154.3	154.6	156.3	162.4	162.3	164.1
Aircraft components sector	150.1	150.0	152.1	152.1	152.2	154.0	160.1	159.8	161.9
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	153.0	152.9	155.0	155.0	155.1	157.1	162.7	162.6	p 166.0
5 HOURLY EARNINGS OF ADULT MANUAL WORKERS		p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	138.4	137.8	140.2	140.1	140.2	142.1	144.8	143.9	147.9
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	143.0	145.7	148.1	146.9	144.9	146.8	151.5	153.1	p 153.0
6 COMBINED COSTS		p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	148.2	148.6	150.8	151.2	151.4	153.0	156.5	156.5	158.7
Airframe sector	147.9	148.2	150.0	150.3	150.6	152.2	155.8	155.8	158.1
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	149.0	149.6	152.2	152.6	152.9	154.4	157.8	157.9	159.7
Aero-engine parts sector	148.8	149.2	151.5	152.1	152.5	153.9	157.2	157.2	159.2
Aircraft components sector	147.3	147.6	149.4	149.7	149.9	151.5	155.2	155.1	157.4
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	149.9	150.7	152.5	152.6	152.5	154.2	158.2	158.9	p 160.7

Definitive information on earnings for both manual and administrative, technical and clerical (ATC) workers for the aerospace industry is available only for certain months of the year – manual earnings information is available for April and October each year, ATC salaries information is available for April of each year.

Revisions to series brought about as a result of ATC salaries information becoming available will be shown in the article to be published on 7 December next year and will affect indices from May this year up to and including those of next August.

Revisions to series incorporated as a result of manual earnings information from the October survey are published in the April articles and these affect series from the preceeding November up to and including December. The results obtained from the April aerospace survey will affect indices from last November up to and including June and will be shown in the article published on 5 October.

The indices for wages and salaries for the radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry are based entirely on information relating to average earnings in the electrical engineering industry and all the manufacturing industries respectively.

The cost index tables previously D1-D5 and D7 have been redesignated sections 1 to 6 in the table.

The indices of combined costs are based on the assumption of no change in productivity.

p =Provisional

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Combination of quota years

A private members bill introduced by Hugh Jenkins to amend section 6 of the Films Act 1960 received its third reading in the House of Lords on 22 February 1979 and has now passed into law.

This section of the act permits an exhibitor who anticipates a long run of a foreign film at his cinema (ie over eight weeks) to apply to the Department of Trade to spread his obligation to show an annual quota of British or Community films over two years, rather than having to meet the quota in each year separately.

The 1960 act required this application to be made before screening commenced. As exhibitors could not predict whether a foreign film would be successful or not there was a tendency to apply 'just in case' and the majority of applications granted proved unnecessary. This caused fruitless work for all concerned.

The amended section will now allow the exhibitor to apply for a combination of two quota years either before or during the screening of the foreign film at his cinema. This will allow him better to judge the likely success of a film and save many unnecessary applications.

This amendment was originally suggested by the Cinematograph Films Council in 1975, but no earlier legislative opportunity presented itself until Lord Birkett introduced the same measure in 1978. Although it was then supported by the government the bill, having passed in the Lords, failed in the commons.

Hugh Jenkins bill also received government support.

The film quota is fixed annually by the Secretary of State for Trade after consultation with the Cinematograph Films Council. It is currently 30 per cent for first feature films and 25 per cent for supporting programme.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Aets 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 23 February 1979.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
The Shetland Experience	BR/E 39940/25/2/84	27	19 February	Enterprise Pictures Ltd	Samaritan Films Ltd, T/A Balfour Films
Pipeline Alaska	BR/E 39941/25/2/84	29	19 February	Enterprise Pictures Ltd	Pelican Films
Deep Waters	BR/E 39942/25/2/84	55	19 February	Children's Film Foundation Ltd	Eyeline Films Ltd
Chameleon Soho	BR/E 39943/25/2/84	27	20 February	Hemdale International Films Ltd	Labourne Finance Ltd
Movietone News 2594	BR/E 39835/25/2/84	8	23 February	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
FOREIGN					
In Praise Of Older Women	F 39944	110	20 February	Columbia-EMI-Warner Distributors Ltd	Astral Films Ltd, Ontario

NOTES

The quota life of the film 'Clockmaker' (BR/E 35618/17/6/76) has been renewed in respect of the period 15 February 1979 until 14 February 1981 under section 2(2) of the Films Act 1960 as inserted by section 10(1) of the Films Act 1970.

Registration numbers for two films registered on 12 February should have read 'National Lampoon's Animal House', F 39929, and 'Wilderness Family Part 2', F 39930.

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